



### ALASKAN MILITARY TOKEN UPDATE: ELMENDORF A.F.B. — N.C.O. OPEN MESS

by  
Bryan E. Cleary



The Noncommissioned Officer Open Mess, called the Kashim, on Elmendorf Air Force Base has again returned to tokens as a medium of exchange. Issued into service on 1 June 1987, the new two dollar trade token is redeemable at the Kashim through May of 1988.



The Kashim received approximately 7,500 39.7mm, round aluminum pieces made for and then supplied by Ace Novelty Company of Alaska, in Anchorage. Ace Novelty has supplied tokens to the American Legion, Military, V.F.W. and many private clubs throughout Alaska. Private clubs in California, Arizona and Hawaii have also been supplied by the company.

In past years the N.C.O. Open Mess used 37mm aluminum and brass tokens, in the \$1 denomination. Except for its \$2 value, slightly larger size and expiration date, this token's appearance conforms to the standards set by its predecessors. The obverse and reverse of the token are identical. One side is engraved deeper, giving the lettering on that side a more rounded appearance. The other side's lettering appears quite flat. This is most prominent on the "2".

The token comeback is an attempt to streamline efficiency and service to Kashim members. The system got bogged down when using the club card (like a credit card) to charge for some services. The tokens performance to date has been extremely good. In fact, a cost savings to club operations has already been seen and in the long run a savings to members is expected.

All indicators being the way they are, this \$2 trade token will be retired in May of 1988. A future brand new token is to follow, though, and provide Alaskan military token enthusiasts with yet another challenge in collecting.



Three varieties of the brass, \$1 trade token.  
(Note E in TRADE as it lines up with S in MESS)



## EDITORIAL

As mentioned in last month's issue, there have been some changes here. As of January 1, 1988, a partnership exists between Jerry Cleworth and myself. We will be doing business as Alaska Rare Coin Investments. It is for this reason that no subscription renewals were accepted before the first of the year. Since ARCI will be incurring the expense of the newsletter, it should also be the recipient of the subscription fees.

Jerry has been in business for eight years as Alaska Rare Coin Investments. Because the business name is well known and highly respected in Alaska, we will continue to use it. We have competed in the coin market in Fairbanks over these eight years, but we have also co-operated in several auctions and a couple of other business ventures. We know each other well, and expect to be able to provide our customers with a well rounded selection of products and services related to numismatics.

It is expected that this merger will allow us to further pursue our own interests in numismatics. As all of you know, one of my pet projects is this newsletter. It is a high priority of mine.

And since Jerry is the associate editor, then I will be able to get him to fill in in this space once in a while. Like next month! This will give the publication a more diverse point of view.

Mainly because of the time involved in putting this newsletter together, we have raised the subscription rate. We hope that we will not lose any of you because of this. I feel that ATC&PN has improved through the years, and that it will continue to do so. Please use the subscription order blank attached to the last page.

Finally, welcome to our **10th** year! Thank you for your continued support. Without you, it would not have been possible. One project for this year is a ten year index. This will be sent to all subscribers at no charge, hopefully with the December issue, along with an index for 1988.

## PRICES REALIZED

The prices below are quite a surprise to us. Three "common" Yukon tokens and one scarce one, and a scarce Alaskan.

So, if you are sitting down, here goes!

Dawson, B&M, 12 1/2¢	-----65.00
Dawson, Davies & Frey, 12 1/2¢	---127.00
Dawson, Tanana Hotel, 25¢	-----275.00
Dawson, Tanana Hotel, 25¢	-----212.00
Dawson, Kilgore & Landahl	-----338.00
Wrangell, Hurley & Kelly, 10¢	----329.00

Hm. Maybe now is the time to sell my Yukon stuff? Only joking, Les, Brian, Alan, Don, Ron, Ralph and Ron!

If you know of prices realized that should be reported, please send them in.

- - - - -

COMING NEXT MONTH: WILLIS & WELCH

FUTURE MONTHS: AL ASKA TEMPLE

SMALL CHANGE IN THE NORTH

- - - - -

## YOUR AD COULD HAVE

### HERE FOR ONLY

### \$15 FOR FIVE MONTHS

- - - - -

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Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick

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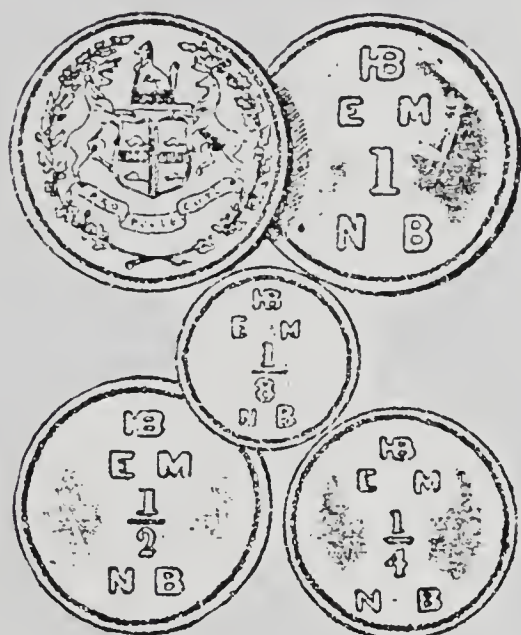


## HUDSON BAY MONEY

(Reprinted courtesy of The Numismatist, page 166, 1899, official publication of the American Numismatic Association, 818 North Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903)

### HOOPER'S RESTRIKES

(Jos. Hooper)



We give a cut of some of the "tokens" formerly used by the Hudson Bay Company at its far northern post in their trading with the Indians. They are of brass and are handsome to look upon. On the obverse appears the handsome coat of arms of the Ancient and Honorable of the Hudson Bay Company, made up of the symbols of the fur trade, with argent a cross gules, a beaver proper in each compartment; supporters, two stags; crest, a fox. Underneath the shield is a scroll with the company's motto, adopted from a phrase taken from the Vulgate, occurring in the fourth verse of the second chapter of Job: "Pro Cute Cutem," which roughly being translated means "Skin for pelt." On the reverse are the letters which below are given (with accepted translation), H (Hudson's) B (Bay) E (East) M (Main) N (now looked upon as M, Made) B (Beaver). They were of four values, one-eighth, one-fourth, one half, and one beaver, the beaver being the unit of value. Their sizes, as measured by the American scale, are 14, 15, 16 and 18 respectively. These four varieties are all that have ever been known to exist.

The narration of Mr. R. W. McLachlan, of Montreal, a well-known Canadian numismatist, as to how these coins first came to light is well given in an article he published in 1892, of which a slight synopsis

will be interesting. He says: "They first came to his knowledge about 1884, when one of his one-eighth denomination came through an Indian into the hands of a young collector. He showed his prize and looked around for a purchaser, with the good fortune of shortly after disposing of it for the neat little sum of \$125. This sale set the whole coin fraternity agog, and they determined to find some more, if possible. Correspondence with the H. B. Co.'s officers in the north and with the home and Winnipeg offices did not throw any light upon the subject. Thus things dragged along for another two years, until fresh impetus was given to the search by a collector who had dealings with the north, showing to the astonished eyes of his friends an identical piece with the one already known and three others., varying only in their denominations. More hunting ensued, but another two years went by without any fresh discovery. In the year 1888 Messrs. A. P. Low and C. H. McNutt, who were detailed to prospect the country east of Hudson's Bay, discovered nine complete sets at Little Whale River."

\* \* \* \* \*

Editor's notes: This article presents some information that may not be familiar to some readers.

The writer's description of the coat of arms should easily be interpreted by most. What we have is a silver cross, dividing the shield into four parts (compartments). Each compartment has a beaver, but the meaning of the term "proper" escapes me. A stag is supporting each side of the shield, while a fox makes up the crest at the top of the shield.

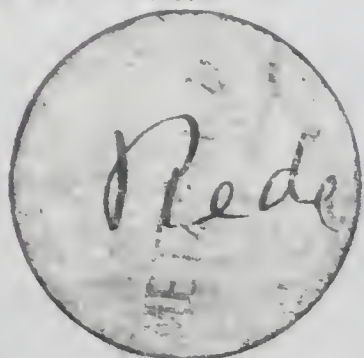
What may be obscure to many is the reference to "American scale". The American scale is made up of 1/16 inch units. Therefore, a 14 would be 7/8 of an inch, a 15 would be 15/16 of an inch, a 16 would be an inch and an 18 would be 1 1/8 inches.

Imagine \$125 in 1884. In gold coin, that would be almost 6 1/4 ounces of gold! That is nearly \$3000 today! Today, a set can be purchased for \$300. And, as the article relates, if the price is right, every one and his brother starts to look for more of the pricey item. Sort of what has happened in Alaska tokens!



MAX REDE — FOX, AK.

AURORA LODGE



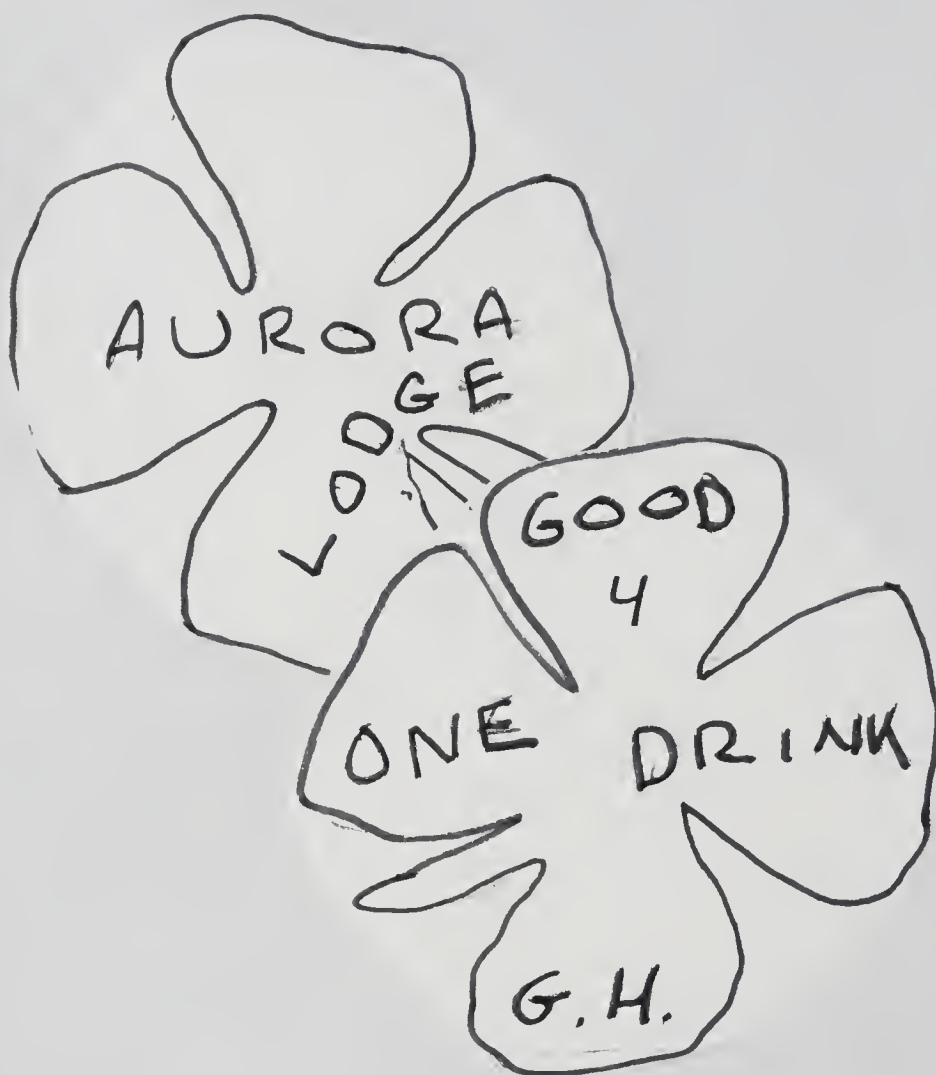
From the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, November 8, 1937.

Max Rede's store and the Fox post office have been moved a quarter of a mile south of the present community of Fox. The removal was necessitated by the advance of mining operations. By careful management during the last 10 years, Mr. Rede has built his trade from a small country store to a considerable business, now housed in an excellent new building.

#### ALASKALAND MEMORABILIA

It has been reported in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner that five scrap books of memorabilia have been donated to the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Archives. This should make it easier for any potential researchers out there to dig up information on the A-67 medal and the Alaskaland Expo 50¢ token discussed in the October-November issue of ATC&PN

Formerly located at 39 mile of the Richardson Highway. Obviously for St. Patrick's day. Green felt with black hand lettering. Reportedly issued 1969 or 1970.



COMMERCIAL HOTEL  
*A. P. Manning*  
EUROPEAN PLAN  
Whitehorse, Yukon Ter.



*J. O. Morford, Esq.  
3627 South J. Str.  
Tacoma, Wash.*

*Mar 15 1904*

Here is a neat cover from '03 John West is listed as a hotel proprietor in Whitehorse, Electoral District of the Yukon, Polling Division No. 5. (submitted by Nicki Nielsen)



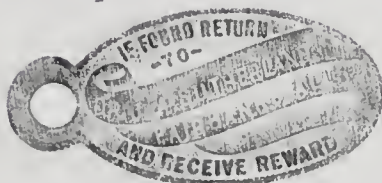
# FOR THE RECORD



CHENA, AK: Second Class, C.C. Tackleson. 12 1/2 ¢ in trade. Aluminum, square, 25mm. Listed as C.O. Tackleson in the 1907 Tanana Directory.



FAIRBANKS: Garbage Power TUIT. 32mm, brass.



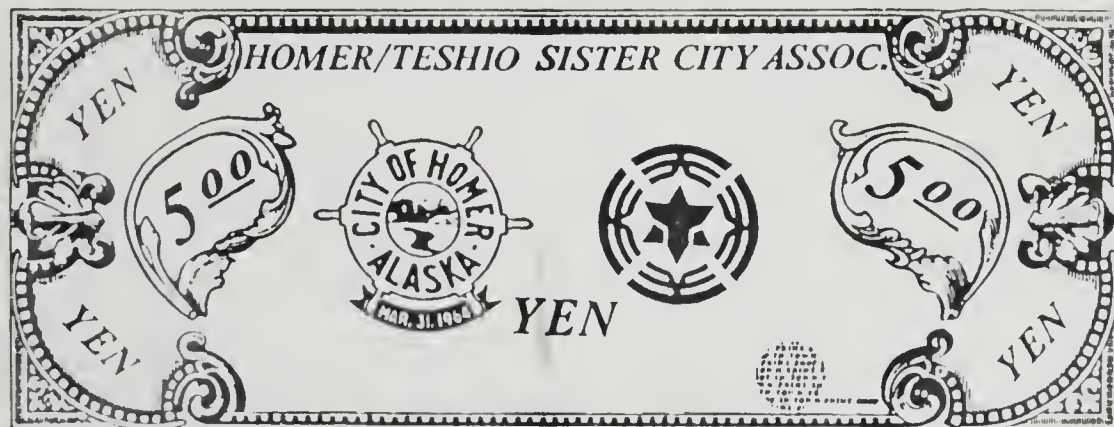
FAIRBANKS: Key return tag, Dr. J. A. Sutherland. White metal, 42mm by 20mm.



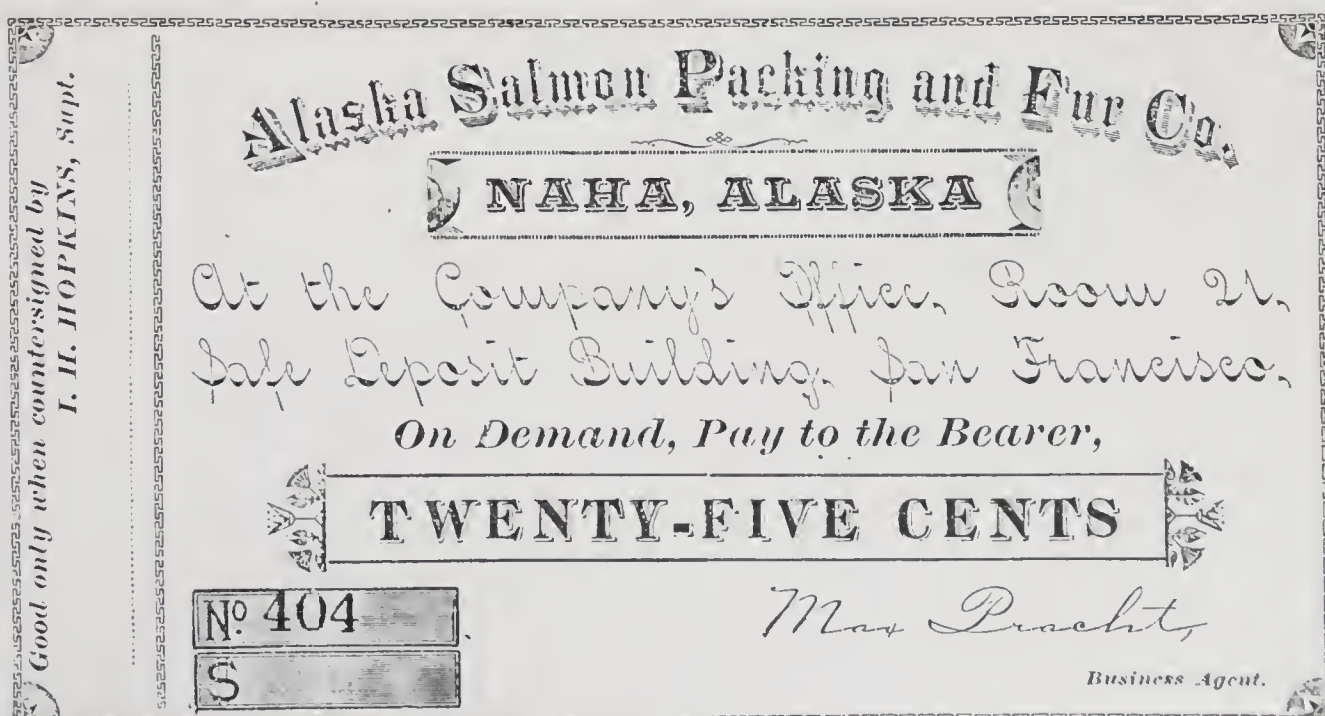
HOMER: Uminski's Dept. Store, 25th Anniversary, 1954 to 1979. Obverse features the family crest. Brass, 34mm. (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

HOMER: Homer/Teshio Sister City Assoc. These notes were used for a charity casino night to benefit the activities of the Sister City Program in the spring of 1987. Issued in 1.00 Yen (blue), 5.00 Yen (yellow), 10.00 Yen (pink) and 20.00 Yen (tan). All printed in blue ink. (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

NAHA, AK: Alaska Salmon Packing and Fur Co., 25 Cents note. See ATC&PN, 2/82, page 9 and 7/82, page 34. (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



WE ARE IN NEED OF SPACE FILLERS. JUST THINK. IF YOU SEND THEM IN, THEN YOU WON'T HAVE TO READ THIS KIND OF SPACE FILLER!





# ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR & POLAR NUMISMATIST

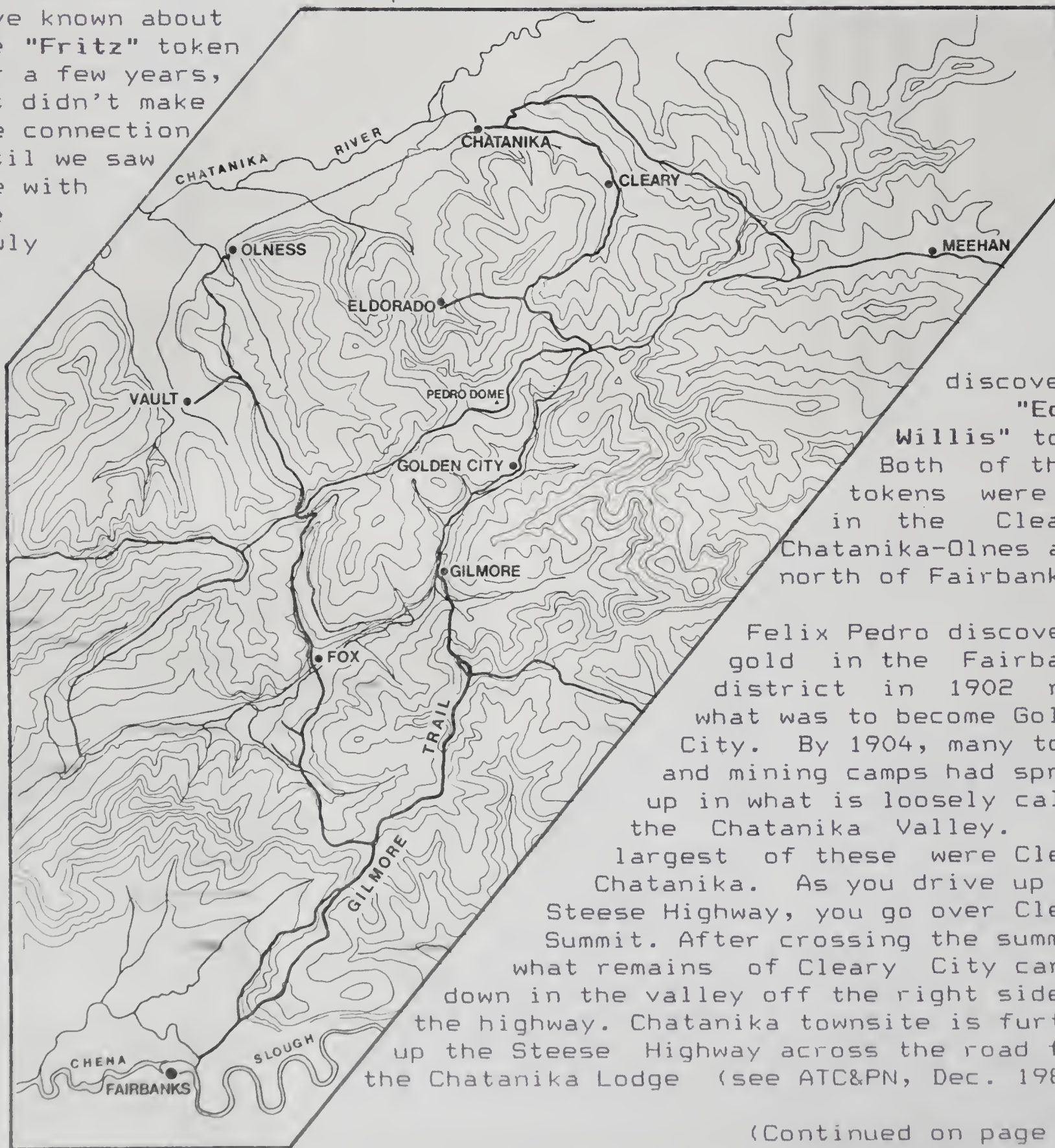
A.R.C.I., P.O. BOX 2832, FAIRBANKS, AK 99707 \* SUBSCRIPTION \$10.00/YR.  
 VOLUME X, NUMBER 2. FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1988.



WILLIS & WELCH



In the October-November 1987 issue of ATC&PN, we reported an encased cent with the legend "Willis Bingle" of Edward C. Willis. Two new tokens have also come to light that can probably be attributed to Willis and his future partner, Thomas Frederick "Fritz" Welch. We have known about the "Fritz" token for a few years, but didn't make the connection until we saw one with the newly



discovered "Eddie Willis" token. Both of these tokens were dug in the Cleary-Chatanika-Olness area north of Fairbanks.

Felix Pedro discovered gold in the Fairbanks district in 1902 near what was to become Golden City. By 1904, many towns and mining camps had sprung up in what is loosely called the Chatanika Valley. The largest of these were Cleary Chatanika. As you drive up the Steese Highway, you go over Cleary Summit. After crossing the summit, what remains of Cleary City can be down in the valley off the right side of the highway. Chatanika townsite is further up the Steese Highway across the road from the Chatanika Lodge (see ATC&PN, Dec. 1987).

(Continued on page 8.)



EDITORIAL

When Dick asked me to write this editorial I was at a loss for words, which is unusual for me. What could I, a die hard U.S. pattern collector, have to say about tokens or medals? In the last week or two, I have come up with several ideas that I will share with you over the months that follow.

Much of my time is spent working up intelligent bids for auctions from outside firms. This is a frustrating, but sometimes necessary vehicle for buying material from regular issues, to territorial to, of course, tokens and medals.

To return material that is over-graded, some firms state that you must first write for permission. Disregard this, and just send the material back with a letter stating the reasons for the return. Never keep items that are incorrectly described. All auction companies make mistakes in their catalog descriptions. Some really fight you on the returns and will refuse them. Be persistent, however, because you are the consumer. You do not have to accept items that are not as described.

Read between the lines in auction descriptions. "Bright" usually means a cleaned or dipped coin. "Steel" appearance usually means a lifeless coin that has been polished or simply lacks nice mint luster. "Normal strike" usually means a weak strike. I could go on with this, but I am sure you get the picture.

Finally, be confident of your grading ability if you purchase through an auction. Only deal with firms that are consistent in their grading. When we catalog our auction, we describe everything, but even then, we never question an item that might be returned. Everyone views coins and medals differently and they should be entitled to their opinion.

Speaking of auctions, our next one is scheduled for February 26, in Fairbanks. It will feature U.S. and world coins, U.S. paper money and Alaskan tokens and medals. These will not be sent out automatically to subscribers of ATC&PN. If you wish a copy, please write and request it.

TOTEM SALOON



The above token was previously reported in ATC&PN. It was dug in the Olmes area. In the past, we had no hope of even tentatively attributing this piece.

The 1907 Tanana Directory lists the Totem Saloon in Cleary City, owned by Charles Renard and A.W. Bishop.

The simple listing of the Totem Saloon in a directory does not in itself attribute this token. The token is virtually identical to the "Fritz" token on the front page of this issue. The two tokens were undoubtedly made by the same manufacturer, probably at about the same time. We can imagine Fritz Welch getting together with Renard or Bishop, and ordering tokens from the same manufacturer. Or a jobber coming through Cleary and taking orders.

Granted, this is all speculation. But with the location of the find (where the tokens were dug up) and the similarity of fabrication and design, we feel comfortable with a tentative attribution to Cleary.

We have approximately 20 of the Totem tokens for sale. They are priced at \$30 each, postpaid.

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## WILLIS & WELCH, cont.

From here, it is a short snow machine or three wheeler ride on the old Tanana Valley Railroad right of way to Olmes.

It is interesting to note that neither of these tokens carry a value. The "Fritz" token is uniface, while the "Eddie Willis" token simply states "Good in Trade". This lack of stated value is quite common on tokens issued in Nome, by businesses that were established between 1900 and 1903 (Eldorado, Elite, Gaiety, Imperial Cigar Store). A few of the early Fairbanks businesses also had tokens without a value stated on them (F & G, H.B., D. Ryan). Whatever the reason for this, the issuer of the token and the receiver were agreed upon its value at the time of the exchange. All of tokens cited were, 21mm, brass tokens, as are the "Fritz" and Eddie Willis". This is a common size and composition for tokens of that era.

Edward C. Willis is known to have been in business in Cleary, without Welch, from 1904 to 1906. It is in this time period, or earlier, that we believe that the "Willis Bingle" and the newly discovered "Eddie Willis" tokens were issued. The "Willis Bingle" encased cent trade token uses an Indian Cent. Willis left Chatanika in 1914 and did not establish himself in Long until 1917. It is unlikely that an encased cent made after 1910 would use an Indian cent.



Willis & Welch are listed in the Fairbanks phone directory of 1906 in Cleary City, but not in Chatanika. They are listed as general merchants. Therefore, it is logical to assume that the maverick Willis tokens are from Cleary, or another unknown location, but not from his years at Long.

At present, we have no idea where Robert Welch was in business when the "Fritz" token was issued. Because the token was dug in the area, and he was in business with Willis beginning in 1906, then our assumption is that it is from this area, prior to 1906.

The 1907 Tanana Directory lists Willis and Welch in Cleary. This directory includes Chatanika with the Cleary listings. Welch is listed as "Welch, Fred F., branch of Willis & Welch, 15 below Cleary." This indicates a location on Cleary Creek. This is down the creek from the townsite of Cleary, which was opposite 1 and 2 Below Discovery. By using mineral survey maps, we have established that this location, and the adjoining claim, 16 Below, is the site of the old Chatanika townsite. Our thanks to Nick Nugent for providing the maps that provided this information.

15 Below was a very populated claim. Edward Engel and Frank Lawson are listed in the 1907 Tanana Directory as the owners. T. Lewis is the proprietor of "15 Roadhouse", also listed on this claim.

Four other people are listed at the roadhouse address. There are 24 people listed as miners and 8 as other types of laborers. Welch, of Willis and Welch is of course listed. But so is A. Christopher (saloonkeeper), Robert Haynor (barber) and Thomas Keen (shoemaker). At least 43 people have their address as "15 Below Cleary".

As an aside, A.J. Nordale (Fairbanks B-29a) had two hotels in Cleary. The Grand Hotel is listed as being in Cleary City, while the Branch Hotel is listed at 16 Below

(Continued on page 9)



WILLIS & WELCH, cont.

Cleary - the next claim below the very populated 15 Below. And there are quite a few people listed with this claim as their address.

Willis and Welch were in business together in Cleary from 1906 to 1911, but two fires nearly destroyed the town in 1907, and Willis and Welch are not found listed in the 1909 phone book in Cleary. Also in 1907, the Tanana Valley Railroad came to Chatanika. In the 1906 phone book, Cleary has 2 pages of listings, Cleary Creek has 1 page, while Chatanika has only 2 listings. In the 1909 phone book, Cleary and Cleary Creek combined and Chatanika both have about 10 listings. Evidently, the fires, and the coming of the railroad to Chatanika prompted many of the townspeople to move to Chatanika, leading to the demise of Cleary.

Willis and Welch were in business together in Chatanika from 1908 to 1914. What is probably the most expensive Alaskan token was issued by Willis & Welch while in business in Chatanika. The Willis & Welch



"Peanut Dept.", pressed tin token for 25¢ has changed hands twice in the last year or so at a price we feel obliged not to report out of respect for the privacy of those involved. Since then, another of these has been discovered in the Fairbanks area. Still, this is a very rare token.

There is a blank from 1914 to 1917 for Willis, and then he is in business in Long from 1917 to 1922. While in business in Long, he issued bi-metal tokens in the denominations of 25¢, 50¢ and \$1.



Willis's Bingle Long; Long, Alaska

Welch continued in Chatanika until 1923. Among the most popular Alaskan tokens are the "Bingle Fritz", bi-metal pieces from Chatanika that he issued bearing his nickname "Fritz". These were very scarce



tokens until a couple of years ago when a hoard appeared (see ATC&PN September, 20, 1983 Extra edition). This hoard is tightly controlled and the size being known only to the person that has it. Pieces were still available from this hoard about a year ago.

Perhaps we will never know where the Willis Bingle, Eddie Willis, and Fritz maverick tokens were issued. Nevertheless, Willis and Welch have given Alaskan Token Collectors the most valuable Alaskan token, two nice bi-metal sets and a rare token from a rare town.

I will trade R7 and R8 Alaska Tokens for Yukon Territory tokens, Alaska scrip and Alaska National Bank notes.

RON BENICE

25 Stewart Place, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549

914-666-4414

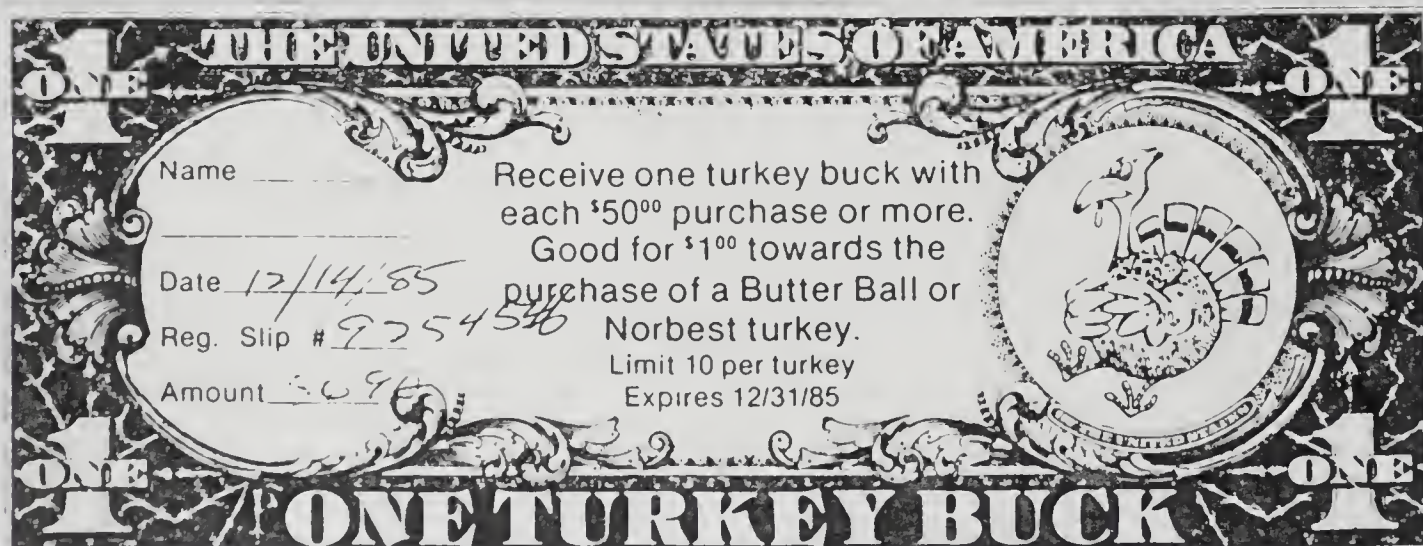
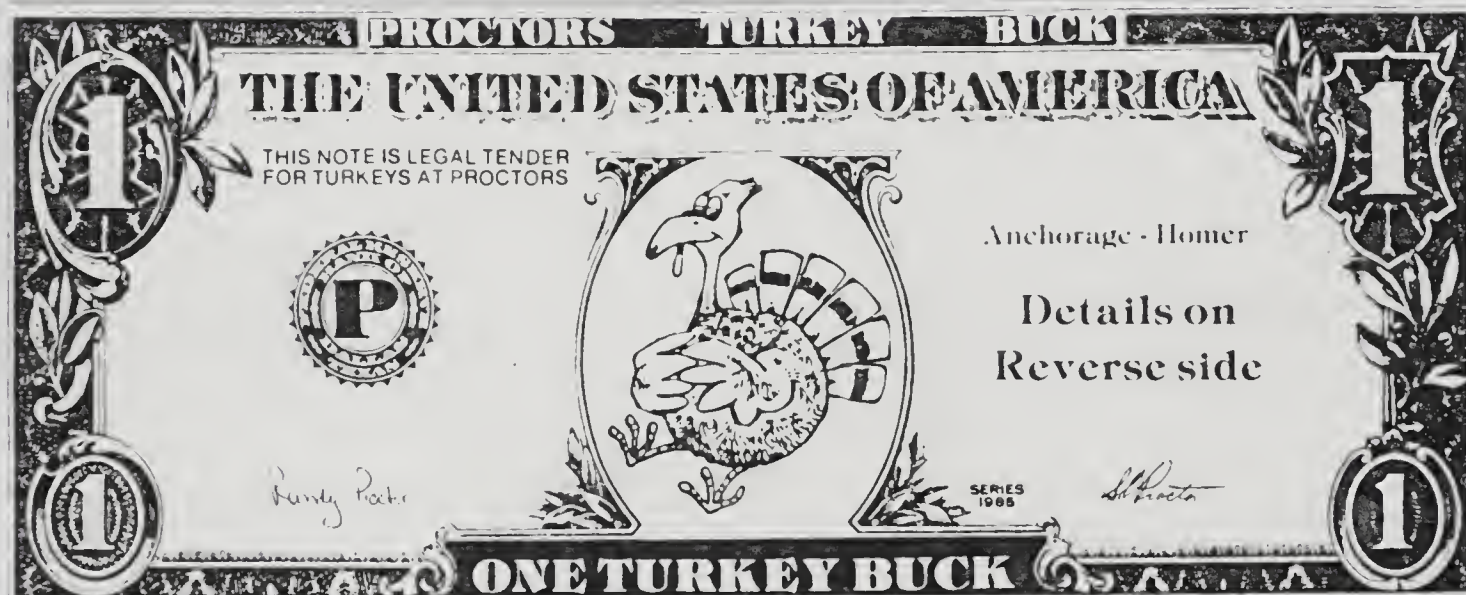


## PAPER POTPOURRI

Paper items have always been a problem because of size, and the amount of space required to illustrate them. This month, we are cleaning our files of these items. When the need arises again, we will do it again!



**HOMER:** Homer Travel Services, Homer Travel Buck. Given out with the purchase of a plane ticket. Black lettering on lime green paper, uniface, 180mm x 75mm. Issued in 1987.



**ANCHORAGE-HOMER:** Proctors Markets, Proctors Turkey Buck, 1985. Green on white paper, 221 mm by 89 mm (illustration reduced). (Both Homer items submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

(Continued on page 11)




**\$1**

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**RAMSPOT**



**\$1**

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Signature MEL JAMES INC.

Redeemable from December 1, 1987 through June 30, 1988

**\$5**

NO CASH VALUE

**BUILD YOUR OWN SPECIAL!**

**FAIRBANKS:** Alaska Sports Mall. Ramspot in \$1 and \$5 values. Black on green, uniface, 168mm x 76mm. Issued 1987.

**DAWSON, YUKON:** Dawson Dollar, Dawson Museum and Historical Society, 1987. Black and orange on white, 140mm x 66mm. Second year of issue of a paper trade dollar. We have a few of these available for \$2 each plus SASE or \$1.50 for postage, insurance and handling.

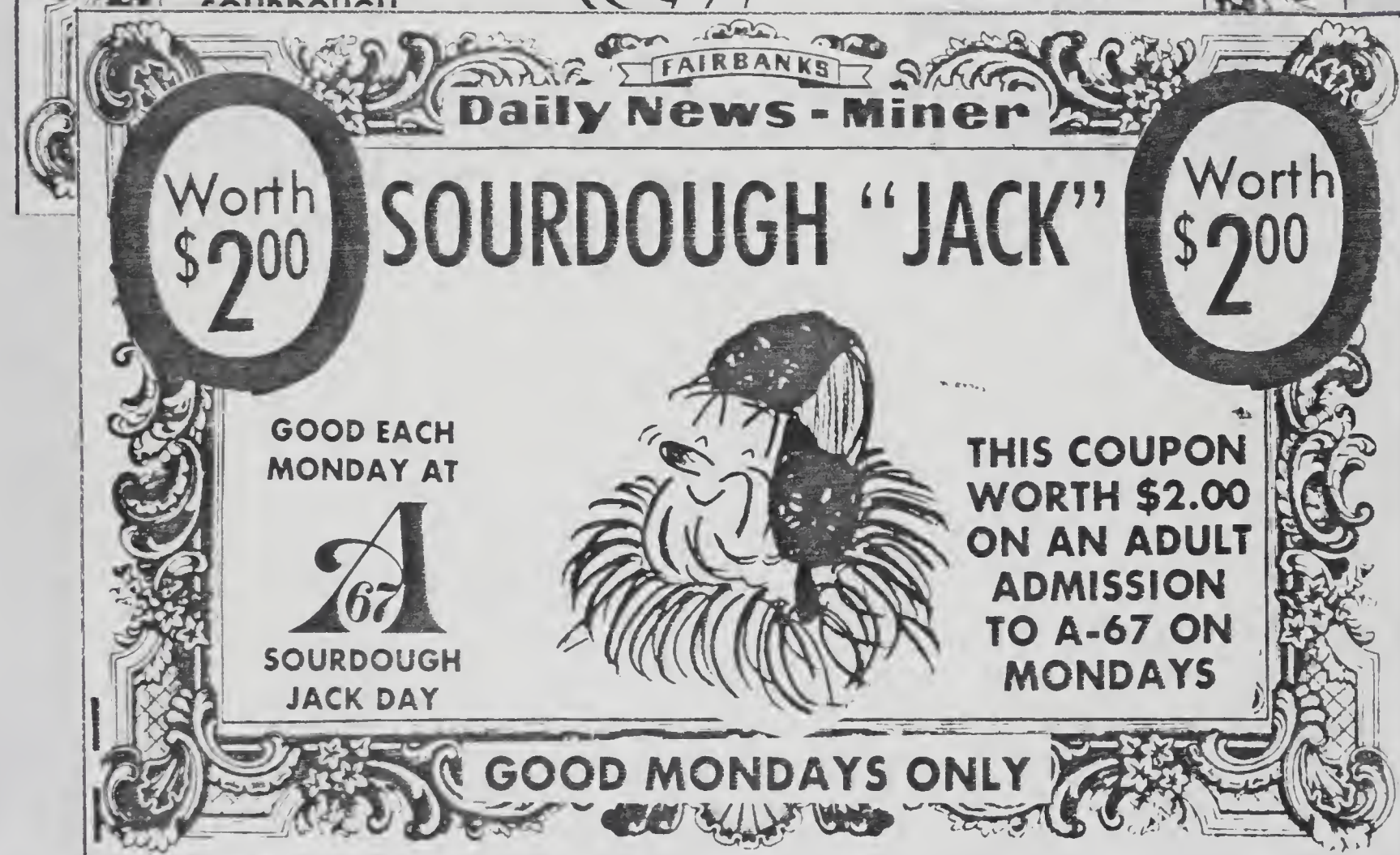
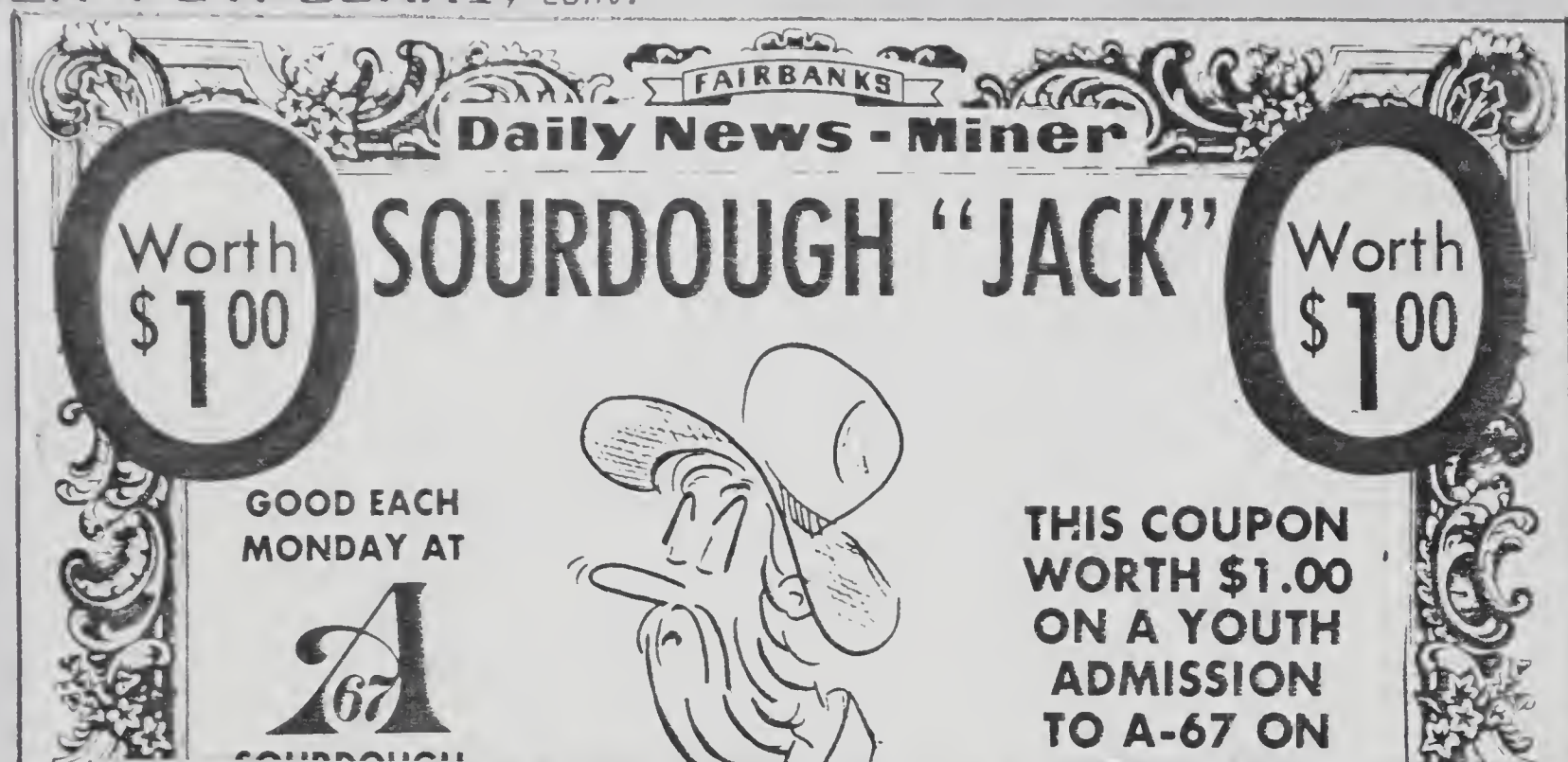
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**ALASKA  
TO ISSUE  
GOLD & SILVER  
BULLION??**

On January 26, the state legislature passed a bill to authorize the minting of gold and silver bullion medals. Governor Cowper is yet to sign the bill. More on this in a future issue.







FAIRBANKS: Sourdough Jack dollars. These were issued to newspaper sellers and delivery people at the rate of \$1 for each 100 papers sold. They are black on newsprint, like newspapers. Used for a discount on the admission at Alaskaland.



#### OXFORD SILVER BARS

We have recently acquired a small quantity of silver bars made for Oxford Assaying and Refining. These attractive bars feature a map of Alaska. In the past, these have brought a healthy premium, but we can offer them for only \$10 each, or 10 for \$90, plus \$1.50 per order for postage and insurance. To order, please use the order blank attached to the last page.



WHITEHORSE, YUKON TRADE DOLLARS



Target Downtown has announced the availability of its 1988 trade dollar, the third to note the importance of transportation in the north. As you will recall, the 1986 trade dollar saluted river travel, while the 1987 saluted rail travel. The 1988 trade dollar salutes the airways, the Yukon's third highway. The 1989 trade dollar will complete the set. A design for this trade dollar has not been announced, but we suspect that it will honor the Alaskan Highway.

All of the trade dollars are made from

nickel bonded steel on 33mm planchets. The coins were all designed by Ms. Catherine Arkely. The Whitehorse city logo is featured on the obverse.

The trade dollars can be ordered from Target Downtown, 3128 - 3rd Ave., Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada Y1A 1E7. The 1988 trade dollars will be available in mid-February for \$1.50 each postpaid, while the 1986 and 1987 trade dollars are priced at \$1.25 each postpaid. Prices are in Canadian funds.

**WANTED** - For historical research & our book, "Licenses and Badges of B.C." We need dog licences, chauffeurs, taxi, & old drivers licences, auto and vehicle, bicycle, peddlers, canvassers, inspectors, fishing, hunting, & most all other B.C. licences & badges, or any related items for above. We will buy or trade. Many items available for trade: War medals and badges, trade dollars, medallions, Canadian, U.S.A. and world coins & stamps, pocket watches & many misc. items of collectible interests. Please write to

John Hnatiuk, P.O. Box 4944 Phone  
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Please add \$1.50 for postage and insurance.

- Alaska Statehood Medal - 3" bronze-----\$17.95
- Miller House Bar - Green cardboard-----\$12.00
- Herring Cove Transit, Ketchikan, AK-----\$ 7.50
- Zapel's Restaurant, Fairbanks, AK-----\$11.00
- Bingo Darts-B.P.O.E. 1551, Fairbanks, AK-----\$ 8.00
- Casey's Place, Fairbanks, AK, brass-----\$ 1.00
- Casey's Place, Fairbanks, AK, nickel-silver-----\$ 1.00
- SOHIO ALASKA, brass took check-----\$ 2.00
- Healy Roadhouse, Parks Hwy., AK, red plastic-----\$ 4.50
- Eagle's #1037, blue plastic (Fairbanks, AK)-----\$ 4.00
- North Star Car Wash, Fairbanks, AK, blue plastic-\$ 3.00
- Pastime Bar, Fairbanks, AK, set of five plastic--\$15.00

THE FOLLOWING ARE ALL WOODEN NICKELS:

- Pioneers of Alaska, 71st convention-----\$ 1.00
- Kelly's Motel, Delta Jct., AK-----\$ 2.00
- Martha's Corner, Seward, AK-----\$ 1.00
- North Star Truck Stop, Car Wash, Fairbanks, AK---\$ 1.50
- North Star Truck Stop, Wash and Wax, Fbks, AK---\$ 1.50
- Lower L.A./Board Walk, Fairbanks, AK-----\$ 2.00
- Fairbanks Feed & Fuel, Alaska-----\$ 2.00
- Dairy Queen of Fairbanks-----\$ 2.00
- The Broiler, Fairbanks, AK-----\$ 2.50
- Elks Lodge, #1551, Fairbanks, AK-----\$ 3.00





## FOR THE RECORD



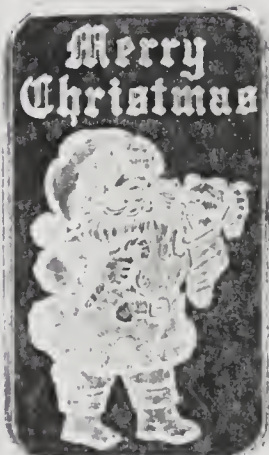
(CLEARY, AK ??): A T Pioneer, 25 cents in trade. Aluminum, 25mm. This token has been in a Fairbanks collection for a number of years attributed to Cleary. Until looking Cleary Creek.  
TANANA DIRECTORY.

49

Cornwell, Alexander, owner, 4 below Cleary, P O Cleary.  
Coslett, A T, Pioneer Saloon, Cleary City, P O Cleary.  
Courtney, Robert N, manager R H Miller & Co, Cleary City, P O Cleary.  
Coyle, James, owner 7 below Cleary, P O Cleary.  
Coyle, Mrs M N, 7 below Cleary, P O Cleary.  
Cothran, M H, Dr, Cothran & Pierce, dentists, P O Cleary.  
Cothran, M H, Dr., Cothran & Pierce, dentists, P O Cleary.  
Cox, N G, layman, Discovery bench, Chatanika, P O Cleary.  
through the 1907 Tanana Directory, we had no evidence. While this attribution is very tentative, it is at least interesting.



FAIRBANKS: Casey's Place (video arcade), 25¢ play value. Brass or nickel-silver, 22.7mm.



FAIRBANKS: Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, Merry Christmas. One ounce silver ingot.



FAIRBANKS: Alaskan Dairies Historical Society. Silver on red plastic.



HEALY, AK: Healy Roadhouse, Mile 245 Parks Hwy. Good for one drink. White on red plastic, 32mm (submitted by Wil Courtney).



NOME, AK: "Nome, Alaska, Jan. 1st, 1900 From E.W.", engraved on a silver dollar. Very interesting item in the "Love token" category (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



PALMER, AK: Pioneers of Alaska, 71st Convention. Black on wood.



MAVERICK: Stewart & Holmes, 6 1/4 I/T. Brs., 21mm. Found in the Fairbanks area by the discoverer of the Eddie Willis and Fritz tokens.

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## OUR CASH-FREE ECONOMY

by

Joanne Irons

(reprinted courtesy of

"Up here, Life in Canada's North" magazine)

The cash register said I owed \$19.97 for my purchase. I handed over a tattered twenty dollar bill I'd pulled from my coat pocket. The cashier rang through the transaction and returned my change: three penny packs of bubble gum.

I was relieved. It wasn't matches again.

Last month, penny change was paid out in paper matches, and I'd accumulated enough to last a year. Gum, on the other hand, was a treat I could pass along to the youngsters who come knocking at my door after school.

As I headed out of the store, I noticed a sign posted by the store management on the community bulletin board:

PLEASE BRING IN YOUR PENNIES  
WE PAY \$1.20 FOR EVERY \$1.00 OF  
PENNIES YOU BRING IN!

In the small settlements of the North, keeping enough cash around is a headache. With no banks in town to supply coins and currency, local businesses have to become currency brokers. The Bay and Co-op stores cash cheques, make up money drafts, administer savings accounts and let you pay your bills. They have to limit the amount of cash they'll give out, to balance the exchange of incoming and outgoing currency. But on days when there's a heavy demand for cash, it's not unheard of for stores to run out of money altogether. They have more flown in, or wait until money circulates back to the store by means of purchases and deposits.

Coins, especially pennies, are much harder than paper currency to keep in circulation. Dresser tops all over town are littered with them, piggybanks and penny jars are stuffed. But there are no pennies at The Bay. In its desperation, The Bay would rather pay \$1.20 for a dollar's worth of pennies than pay air freight to bring more into town from points south, since freight can cost more than the value of the coins.

"Bay dollars" are another fact of life in the North. These faded bills have been tossed into cash registers, spun through the washing machine, and crumpled in and out of countless pockets, purses and wallets until they are limp and grey. They're perfectly legal tender.

Continued on page 17.



## EDITORIAL

This month was a pleasant surprise. This issue almost seemed to write itself.

Our lead article this month is a new version of an old tale. In the early days of the north, there were severe coin shortages. Joanne Irons shows us that the more things change, the more they stay the same! Our thanks to "Up Here" magazine for permission to reprint this article. For more information on this fine publication, write to Up Here, Box 1350, Yellowknife, NWT, Canada X1A 2N9.

We have been interested in Greenland tokens for some time, and have often wondered, that, with all the U.S. bases in Greenland, if there had ever been any military tokens use there. We get our answer this month in "For the Record". An Officers' Open Mess, \$1 token is illustrated.

Alan Weinberg also presents an interesting piece in "For the Record". Alan, if you keep finding these neat pieces, we'll all think you are making them.

We had planned on an article by Bryan Cleary on an interesting Shriner's piece this month, but the other information we wanted to assemble (on other Shriner and Masonic pieces) has not appeared. So, look for that next month.

- - - - -  
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Editor - Dick Hanscom  
Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth  
Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick

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1 page - \$15	1/2 page - \$8
1/4 page - \$5	
1/5 page, business card size - \$15 for 5 months.	

Classified ads: 50 ¢/line (42 characters)  
Commercial Advertisers, write for rates.

## WET NOODLE WHIPPING POST



We ran the large piece in "For the Record" in the December, 1987 issue of ATC&PN, with the note that any one trying to attribute it to the Alaska Commercial Co. without exceptional evidence would be whipped with a wet noodle. Two hardy souls have volunteered.

Lew Egnew sent in the rubbing of the smaller token, and said that he obtained it with other Alaskan tokens. Ok, only one lash!

Les Hill surely rates at least 10 lashings with the following:

"Your A.C. Co. maverick aroused my curiosity and if it came out of the north must surely be of the Alaska Commercial Co. Ron (Greene) and I were discussing the book Canadian Historical Sites #26 one day and he drew my attention to a paragraph on page 74 which reads- "The A.C. Company partly solved the currency problem by issuing vouchers and tokens". I have also seen reference to A.C. Co. vouchers being given to the Moosehide Indians for their wares. We are left with the riddle of the 'M'.

"A number of Yukon river boats seem to have used their names or initials on tokens. We have the NNC's Sarah and Susie, and the Gov. Pingree. The 'MC' and 'T' on Northern Commercial Co. tokens could be for use on the steamers Martha Clow and the Tanana, although they could have been for stores rather than steamers. My guess, and it is just that, would be the 'M' might stand for the Steamer Margaret that the A.C.Co. may have used."

Les realizes that this is speculation, but what is most important, is that he and Ron have established that the A.C. Co. did use tokens!



## OUR CASH-FREE ECONOMY, cont.

but our battered Bay dollars are viewed with suspicion if they happen to make their way to the world Outside. Up here, though, they circulate till you can't read them anymore.

Some people simply don't use cash at all. Your employer deposits your pay cheque directly into your out-of-town bank account. You visit your bank only once or twice a year, or possibly not at all, since you handle all your business with cheques and credit cards. American Express Platinum Cards are flashed in the tiniest Arctic communities, and many people open charge accounts with local businesses. All purchases are paid for by cheque at the end of a the month, so nobody involved needs to see even the smallest hint of hard, cold cash.

So it was that I embarrassed myself while on a shopping trip down south, creating a stalemate at the checkout. The cashier waited patiently for me to surrender payment for my purchases in cash, while I waited with equal patience for her to fill out the receipt so I could sign and be on my way. After months of cashless living, I'd forgotten that the world Outside sometimes has this need to see the color of one's money.

Perhaps our Northern aloofness from the banalities of cash is honestly come by. Barter was the original form of exchange here. Furs, tools, meat and equipment were all traded by native people. As European traders moved into the Arctic, flour, tea, sugar, knives, guns, blankets, pots, flannel and calico were used to pay for hides and furs. A habit of using bullets as common currency developed. Furs sold for so many bullets, and so many bullets bought so many pounds of tea, or yards of calico. Not long ago, people still used bullets as stakes in local poker games.

The Bay introduced its own coinage: aluminum tokens could be spent like cash in its stores and trading posts.

But no matter how hard you try, some things just can't be bought without cash. All-powerful Canada Post works on a cash-only basis -- never mind that you sometimes have

to accept your change in stamps. You still have to give them cash, or your precious mail won't go Out. And, tell me, do you write a cheque to kids selling trinkets for a dollar or two? When you go to a community dance or bingo or a bake sale, you can't really expect them to take Mastercard. So you need cash.

On days when I'm driven that far, I'm forced to scrounge through coat pockets, empty my coin dish, and double-check everybody's wallet. By the time I've gathered together enough of the stuff, I'm convinced it ought to be outlawed.

(Ed. notes: The Bay refers to the Hudson's Bay Co. "Bay dollars" are Bank of Canada notes, like those used throughout Canada, but showing extreme affects of wear).

## FAIRBANKS CENT SHORTAGE

This Coupon is Good For One Cent  
(1¢)  
In Trade

Co Op Drug & Photo Shop  
Fairbanks, Alaska

12/19/74

We bought a collection recently, and found the above paper coupon. The front, as you can see is marked with the date 12/19/74. The back has noted on it "1¢ shortage-74". And is stamped with the "For Deposit Only" stamp used on checks at the Co-op.

## "ALASKA SHUNS NICKELS AND DIMES."

"Though luxury taxes in Alaska call for small coins, the Yukon Development League has rejected a proposal to introduce dimes and nickels into local circulation. Dawson never had had any smaller coin than the 25-cent piece, and will adhere to it."

(reprinted from the August, 1920 issue of "The Numismatist", official publication of the A.N.A., 818 North Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903)

Can some one tell us how luxury taxes in Alaska relate to Dawson in the Yukon. Obviously, there is some confusion here!



A P.S. TO THE SWINEFORD ARTICLE

After publication of this article in the Check Collector and in ATC&PN, December 1987, I received a letter from Robert Richards of Baltimore, MD. His main collecting interest is mining company checks and stocks. He brought to my attention a connection between Iron Cliffs Co. and Alaska.

The company was one of the early iron mining concerns in the Lake Superior region. A Vice President of the company was Major Thomas Benton Brooks, an eminent mining engineer, and father of Alfred H. Brooks. Mr. Richards sent me an Iron Cliffs check signed by Major Brooks.

Alfred H. Brooks (1871-1924) served as head of the Alaska section of the U.S. Geological Survey from 1903-1923. The government published his Geography and Geology of Alaska in 1906. Brooks wrote summaries of Alaska's mineral industries every year he headed the Alaska Section, except in 1917-18, when he was geologist for the U.S. Expeditionary Force in Europe during World War I.

A series of essays on Alaska's history, which he wrote between 1914 and 1923 were published by the University of Alaska and the Arctic Institute of North America in 1953 under the title of Blazing Alaska's Trails.

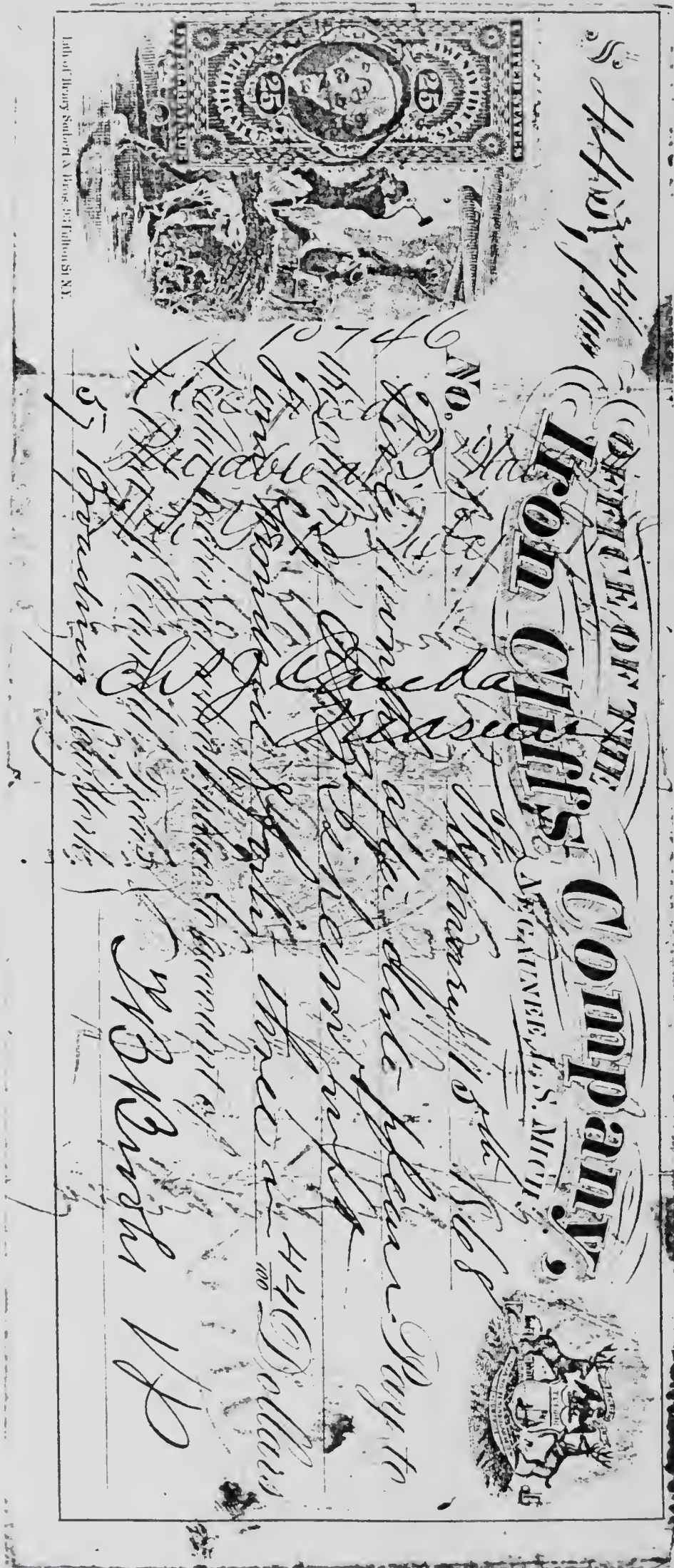
The Brooks Range in northern Alaska is named in his honor, as is the School of Mines Building at the University of Alaska.

I will trade R7 and R8 Alaska Tokens for Yukon Territory tokens, Alaska scrip and Alaska National Bank Notes.

RON BENICE

25 Stewart Place, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549

914-666-4414





## ALASKA AIRLINES



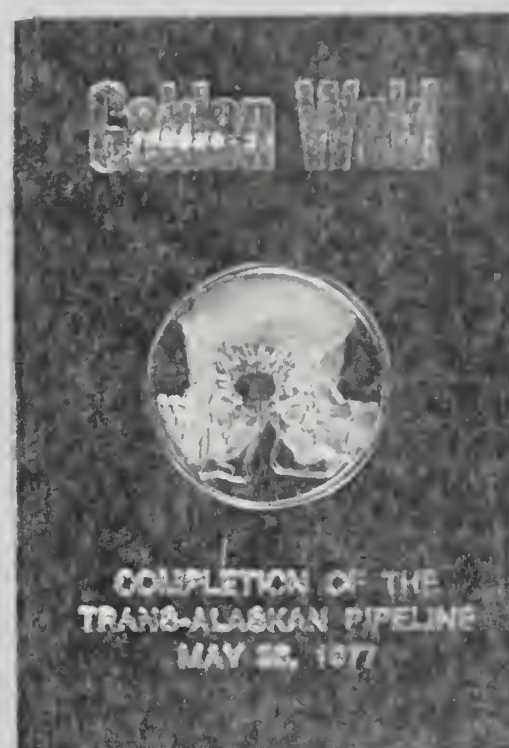
Recently, Dennis Minton of Fairbanks was awarded Alaska Airlines "Above and Beyond" medal. Mr. Minton received his award because of his action that saved six lives in a house fire on October 28, 1987.

O.C. Tanner Company struck 500 of these medals for Alaska Airlines in 1985. Since then, 23 have been awarded to Alaska Airlines employees who demonstrate exceptional courage and selflessness in difficult or challenging situations. Each medal is engraved with the employee's name on the back and a small date plate showing the year that the award was issued is attached to the front.

## PRICES REALIZED

Cordova, Boss Bakery, unlisted	151.00
Seward, Northern, B-6a (oval)	367.50
Seward, Northern, B-6b	30.00
Tenakee, Tillicum Club B-4b	142.00
Dawson City Opera House, 25¢	350.00

## GOLDEN WELD



The Golden Weld on the Trans-Alaskan Pipeline was executed on May 30, 1977. The pipeline was complete from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez.

A 10 karat gold, quarter size medal was issued to commemorate this event. Not the finest die work, one has to know what you are looking at to realize that it is two welders working on the underside of the pipe.

These medals contain over 1/25th of an ounce of pure gold each. We were fortunate to purchase a small hoard of these, and can offer them for \$27.50 each, plus \$1.50 postage and insurance for each order. If you would like 10 or more, they can be purchased for \$25 each, postpaid.

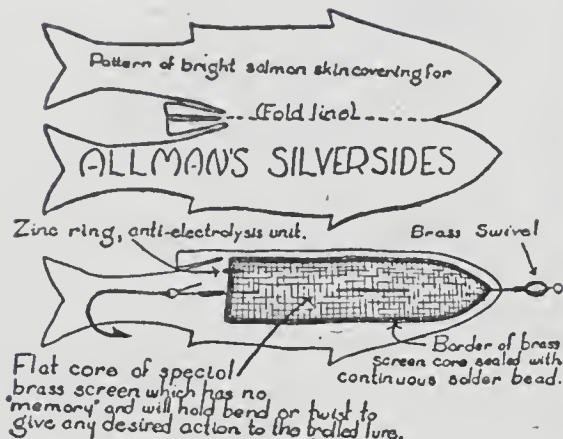
While not rare or scarce, we just haven't had any for several years. They do not seem to be in collections we buy locally. Once this grouping is gone, there is no telling how long it will be before we can obtain any more.

**WANTED** - For historical research & our book, "Licenses and Badges of B.C." We need dog licences, chauffeurs, taxi, & old drivers licences, auto and vehicle, bicycle, peddlers, canvassers, inspectors, fishing, hunting, & most all other B.C. licences & badges, or any related items for above. We will buy or trade. Many items available for trade: War medals and badges, trade dollars, medallions, Canadian, U.S.A. and world coins & stamps, pocket watches & many misc. items of collectible interests. Please write to

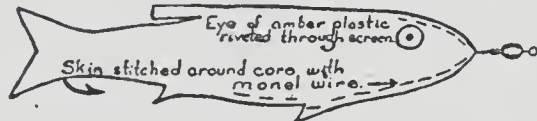
John Hnatiuk, P.O. Box 4944 Phone  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6B 4A6 594-6303



# ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES



The salmon skin covering has been treated to 'set' the scales and also to toughen it while still retaining its natural brilliance.



A simple open hooking that can be operated with cold fingers is provided at the business end of the stainless steel wire threaded through the core.

It will be quite apparent to anyone who will study the accompanying drawing that ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES, is somewhat revolutionary as judged by present day fishing lures.

The sketch is a stylized version of the official drawing upon which the basis for patent protection was applied. According to the patent office, there is no lure registered employing sea leather in its construction, nor is there any with "... a core which embodies malleable properties which take and retain the intentionally distorted shape which is imparted by hand thereto ..."

In good old fishermen's language, this simply means that ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES can be bent or twisted to impart any desired action to the lure. This idea was suggested by the sight of a commercial fisherman buying a box of new spoons and altering their shape to give his own desired action.

Every stripper, sports or commercial troller is convinced he knows exactly how the bait should act in water ... and here is his chance to prove it.

Do not remove the anti-electrolysis ring as the combination of four metals which go into the manufacture of the lure set up an action similar to that of a car battery when being dragged thru' the water, and the core would soon be eaten away without this absorption unit.

The lure is kept in a 100% solution of salt water, being all the salt that any quantity of water can absorb. Should the liquid be spilled out of your container, make up a fresh batch using half-ground or cannery salt. Do not use table salt, as other ingredients will prevent getting a clear mixture.

"LORD GIVE ME GRACE TO CATCH A FISH SO BIG THAT EVEN I WHEN TALKING OF IT AFTERWARDS MAY NEVER NEED TO LIE!"

The copper medal, illustrated above, right, had us puzzled for a number of years. One is in a local collection, and was quite different. Along with the interlocking fishes, the reverse is blank, and the medal itself is concave! What purpose could it have possibly served!

Well, we still don't know its purpose, but can at least establish where it came from! Allman's apparently manufactured a fishing lure in Juneau, Alaska. These ads have been reduced. Hope that they copy well enough to read. They make interesting and amusing reading!

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT  
**ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES**  
IN ALASKA!

**GOT BIG ONE ON ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES**  
During the 1953 Golden North Salmon Derby, I used only SILVERSIDES. There were four poles in the boat in which I fished. Three used herring bait. I was the only one using the ALLMAN lure. Only two salmon were hooked during the day, and the big one was hooked on ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES. I especially like this lure as you can control the action and get the desired movement you are after.  
—ERNEST E. LINCOLN

**30 POUNDER CAUGHT ON SILVERSIDES**  
I certainly enjoyed using the SILVERSIDES lure and caught a 30-pounder on it. Best of luck to you.  
—HERB HETHERINGTON

**COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN SPEAKS**  
Jack, you got something there in this new lure! Why didn't someone think of this before.  
—CONRAD KLIPPET "Armita"

**FIRST WOMAN TO USE ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES**  
The very first fish I ever caught, I got on your lure, Mr. Allman. I got a strike only fifteen minutes of trolling and realized a 33-pound King Salmon. Really thrilling experience.  
—JEAN ARMOUR

**ANSWER TO FISHERMAN'S DREAM**  
ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES, with its controlled action, is the answer to a fisherman's dream. Simply bend lure and get action desired, then watch for the big Kings to strike. I know, for I have caught my share on this dependable lure.  
—BERT BARRER

**SALMON WON'T LEAVE LURE ALONE**  
Like ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES? I should say I do. The salmon just won't leave it alone. I had better luck last season with using ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES than all the other plugs and fresh herring or other types of lures put together. I'm sold on them ... and know you will be too.  
—LOUIS C. COLLINS

**WILL MAKE MORE FISHERMEN OUT OF WOMEN**  
No woman likes to monkey with cutting bait. It is so messy. Men get disgusted with having to stop and bait her hook. I can get the action of a wounded herring by twisting and bending ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES and this erratic action really attracts fish. What is more, I know my lure is always working and never need worry about hook not baited.  
—AMY GUERIN FROMHOLTZ

**SAVES FISHERMAN'S TIME**  
ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES is a natural. Knowing that your poles are always baited and that you are never dragging a dead hook is a real item for a commercial fisherman.  
—BILL CUTHBERT "The Mist"

**INVESTMENT IN SILVERSIDES GRATIFYING**  
Previously, I had been strictly herring enthusiast, never having had much luck with plugs, spoons, etc. My investment in ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES has been most gratifying. Especially, I like the malleability which makes possible to get beautiful action at varying speeds. What is more, its fish-catching ability is all that could be desired. I used ALLMAN'S SILVERSIDES at every opportunity during this past summer.  
—MERLE C. FLEMING

ALLMAN ENTERPRISES, P. O. BOX 2414, JUNEAU, ALASKA



## ALASKA BULLION & COINS

P.O. BOX 1949  
HOMER, ALASKA 99603  
907-235-7400

GOLD SILVER COINS  
COIN SUPPLIES & BOOKS

Mon-Fri. 10am-5:30pm Store hours  
10am-4:00pm Trading hours



# FOR THE RECORD



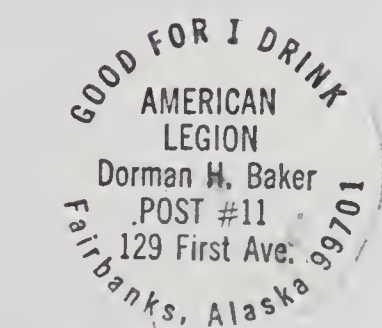
ANCHORAGE: Ensearch Center, 1 oz. silver. Mintage of 500, presented to employees and guests at the open house in December of 1985.



ANCHORAGE: AIC/Martin, 1 oz. silver. Notes the completion of North Star Island for Amerada Hess, off of the North Slope of Alaska. Mintage of 500.



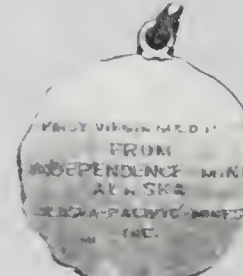
FAIRBANKS: American Legion, good for 1 Drink. Black on wood, varnished, Indian head facing left.



FAIRBANKS: American Legion, good for 1 Drink. Black on wood, unvarnished, Indian head facing right



HAINES, AK: Haines Elks Lodge 2634, One Drink Token. Bronze, 38mm. Mintage 1000. Available from A.R.C.I. Please use order blank below. (submitted by Karl Ward).



HATCHER PASS, AK: "First Virgin Gold 1937/ From/ Independence Mine/ Alaska/ Alaska-Pacific-Mines/ Inc. Gold, 25mm. (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



SAND POINT, AK: Sand Point Centennial, one ounce silver medal. 1000 minted. Available from Sand Point Centennial Commission, P.O. Box 249, Sand Point, AK for \$25.50.



THULE, GREENLAND: Officers' Open Mess, \$1 in trade. Brass, 35mm. (submitted by Jerome Schaeper).





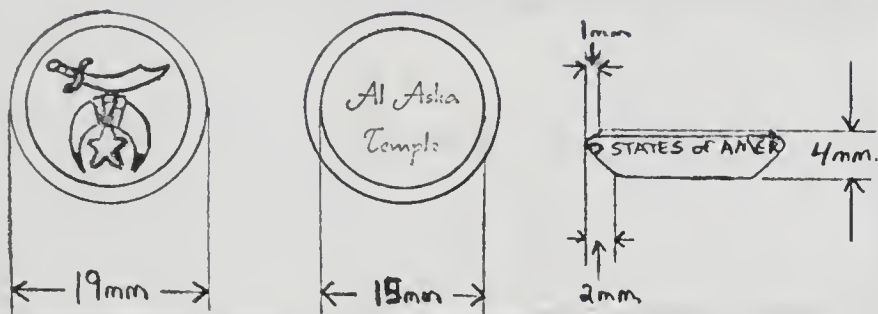
A.R.C.I., P.O. BOX 2832, FAIRBANKS, AK 99707 \* SUBSCRIPTION \$10.00/YR.  
VOLUME X, NUMBER 4.

MAY, 1988.

## THE AL ASKA TEMPLE CENT

by

Bryan E. Cleary



A few years ago Mr. Charles E. Wellong, a member and past Potentate of the Al Aska Shrine Temple in Anchorage, was attending a convention in Georgia. While there, he saw a counterstamped "Masonic" cent that gave him an idea.

As many people know, the Shriner's Hospitals provide excellent health care and treatment for children. The financial burden is absorbed by the hospitals and all services are rendered at no charge. Transportation is also provided but at times this too can be very expensive. So Mr. Wellong's idea was to make a piece that could be used in a fund-raising activity to benefit the Shriner's "Travel Fund for Crippled Children".

Working with Mr. Vinton Edwards, a jeweler friend, they came up with the counterstamp design. The die, costing \$350, was made by a company in California and then shipped to Alaska. The work was done at Mr. Edwards' shop called "Vintons Jewelry" located in Coopers Landing, Alaska.

Using an electrohydraulic press to shape the cents, Mr. Wellong spent many of his weekend hours at the shop operating the press. The amount of force required to do the job was 17,000 psi. Thousands of counterstamped cents were produced beginning in 1982 and then intermittently as demand required through 1984.

The piece is a U.S. Lincoln Memorial cent that has been repressed into the shape of a gold pan. On the reverse (back/bottom) of the pan is written in a raised, cursive style "Al Aska Temple". On the obverse (front/top) looking into the pan is the raised Shriners emblem. The top outer rim edge measures 19mm in diameter. The rim then slopes from the edge inwards toward the bottom. The diameter of the bottom of the pan is approximately 15mm (see sketch above). The Al Aska Temple cent is a very nice piece and on both inner and outer rim sides you can still read "IN GOD WE TRUST" and "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA / ONE CENT".

In 1982 the pieces sold for 3 for 25 cents, and by 1984 they were 10 for \$1.00. Mr. Wellong gave several thousand away to members in Denver, Colorado during the 1983 Imperial Session of Shriners. All cents were sold or distributed within the Shriners organization. Some

Continued on page 25



EDITORIAL

This month, we bring you information and listings of Masonic and Shriner items from Alaska and Yukon. Our special thanks to Bryan Cleary for his article on the gold pan shaped Shriner cent. This is really a neat little piece of Alaskana. Bryan was not only good enough to do the article, he managed to obtain one for my collection!

We did hope to have more information about the other Shriner items, but we were not able to obtain that information. Hopefully, we will yet hear from Al Aska Shrine, and they will be able to shed some light on these.

Syd Wright of Petersburg was in town for a couple of days, and it was a pleasure meeting him. He brought with him several unlisted Petersburg tokens, which are featured in "For the Record." Syd found most these tokens with his metal detector! If any of you want to follow in Syd's foot steps, we are an authorized White's Metal Detector dealer. Drop us a line if you would like some literature.

Finally, our next auction is scheduled for May 20. There will only be a few Alaskan items. If you would like a copy of this auction, please let us hear from you. And don't miss our special items on the last page!

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Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth  
Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick

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1/4 page - \$5  
1/5 page, business card size - \$15 for 5 months.

Classified ads: 50 ¢/line (42 characters)  
Commercial Advertisers, write for rates.

PRICES REALIZED

The following items of interest sold in the March 2-3 Downie-Lepczyk sale.

HBC, "1" (silver fox), square aluminum, EF+, and the "100" round aluminum, Unc. PR- \$80.

HBC, Yorkton set of \$1, 50¢, 25¢, 10¢ and 5¢. VF or better. PR- \$125.

Taylor, Drury, Pedlar & Co., Whitehorse. Complete set, 25¢ to \$20. PR- \$160.

MICHIGAN TRADE TOKENS BOOK

We have just received our copy of this massive undertaking, and could not be more impressed. Paul Cunningham has compiled a listing, liberally illustrated, of approximately 10,000 tokens from 670 localities.

If you have been wondering why you have not had a mail bid auction from Paul in some time, this could very well be the reason. This 740 page volume is a must for any token collector's library. Write to Paul at Box One, Tecumseh, MI 49286.



We recently did an appraisal for a client, and the token illustrated above was part of a "bag" of miscellaneous tokens (no Alaskan, unfortunately). We thought that it was kind of neat. Reminded us of the actor whose mouth would fill a whole TV screen, then the camera would back off to show the whole head.

ALASKA BULLION & COINS

P.O. BOX 1949  
HOMER, ALASKA 99603  
907-235-7400

GOLD SILVER COINS  
COIN SUPPLIES & BOOKS

Mon-Fri. 10am-5:30pm Store hours  
10am-4:00pm Trading hours



# MASONIC PENNIES

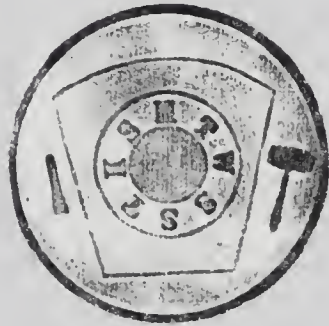
What follows is a trial listing of Masonic Pennies and other items issued by Chapters in Alaska. Chapter name is city name unless otherwise indicated.



ADAK: Masonic Club, n/s, 32mm.



ANCHORAGE, #3 RAM: No date, copper, 29mm.



ANCHORAGE, #3 RAM: No date, with One Penny, copper, 32mm



ANCHORAGE, #3 RAM: 1921, copper, 31mm.



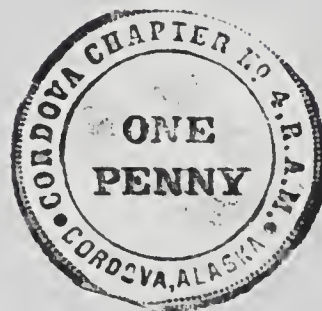
ANCHORAGE, #3 RAM: Sept. 29, 1921, copper, 29mm.



ANCHORAGE, #3RAM: As above, different lettering and shield, brass, 32mm.



CORDOVA, #4 RAM: Aug. 29, 1930, copper, 32mm.



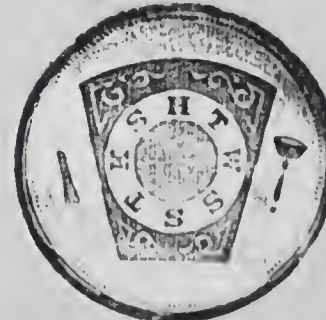
CORDOVA, #4 RAM: One Penny on rev., copper, 31mm.



CORDOVA, #4 RAM: Without One Penny on rev., copper, 31mm.



FAIRBANKS, #1 RAM: Nov. 12, 1909, copper, 31mm.

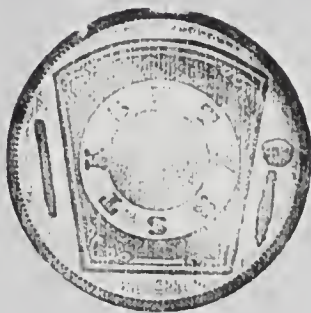


FAIRBANKS, #1 RAM: 1910, copper, 32mm.

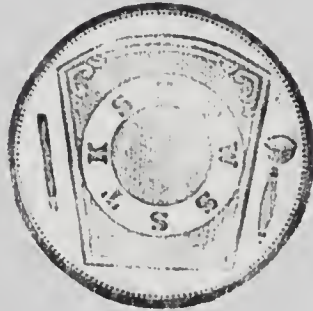
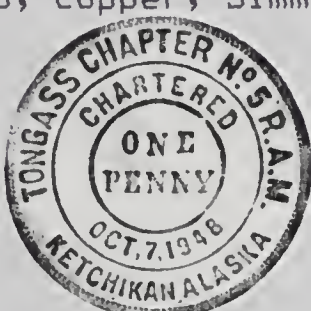




FAIRBANKS, #1 RAM: Stock penny, engraved "FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, No. 1 RAM". Copper, 29mm.



KETCHIKAN, #5 RAM: Tongass Chapter, Oct. 7, 1948, copper, 31mm.



KETCHIKAN, #5 RAM: As above, but brass.



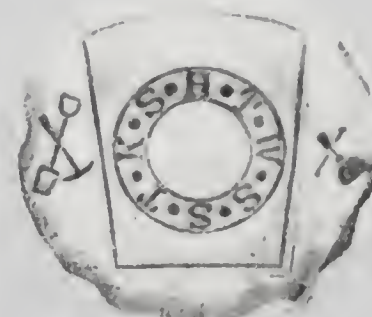
KETCHIKAN, Lodge #159: 75th Anniversary, brass, 34mm.



KETCHIKAN, Lodge #159: 75 Years, blue on wood.



KODIAK, #7 RAM: St. Paul Harbor Chapter. Feb. 6, 1954, copper, 29mm.

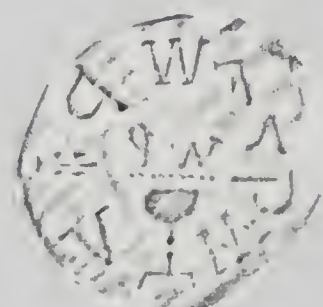


JUNEAU, #6 RAM: Taku Chapter. July 17, 1948, copper and bronze, scalloped, 36mm.



NOME, #2 RAM: Seward Chapter. Jan. 30, 1913, copper, 31mm.

The "shekel" below might be confusing to some. It is marked Cordova, Ala. We believe it is from Alabama.



Our thanks to Kaye Dethridge, Al Love, Ron Benice and Henry Keene for help with this listing.

If you have any Masonic item that is not listed here, we would appreciate learning about it. Please send a rubbing or photocopy so we can run it in an upcoming issue.

# ALASKA TEMPLE CENT, cont.

even made it to Fairbanks and were then made into tie tacks, some gold plated, by a Shriner for other Nobles in the area.

Will there be anymore counterstamped cents produced in the future? Its possible since the dies still exist, but any future production would first have to comply with Shriner Imperial bylaws and the governing hierarchies approval. The following of time honored regulated policies and procedures is the key.



# FOR THE RECORD

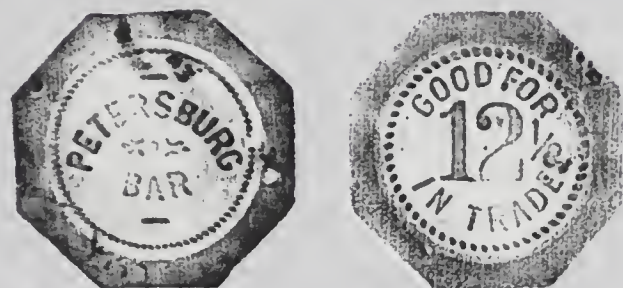


ALASKA: Oxford, one ounce silver round.



KETCHIKAN: Holland's Cigar Store, 25¢ in trade. Aluminum, 29mm. Listed, not illustrated. (submitted by Syd Wright).

PETERSBURG: Hotel Wester, 15¢ in trade. Aluminum. Token was dug, and a rubbing was not possible. (submitted by Syd Wright).



PETERSBURG: Petersburg Bar, 12 1/2¢ in trade. Aluminum, octagonal 30mm. (submitted by Syd Wright).



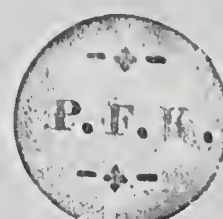
PETERSBURG: Petersburg Pool Room, no denomination. Uniface brass, 21mm. (submitted by Syd Wright).



MAVERICK: F.J. Jamart, 12 1/2¢ in trade. Aluminum, square, 25mm sides. Believed to be Juneau or vicinity.



MAVERICK: Arctic, 25¢ in trade. Aluminum, 25.5mm. (submitted by Ralph Burry).



MAVERICK: P.F.K., bifacial. Made by L. Moise, S.F. Brass, 21mm.



MAVERICK: Walrus Billiard Parlor, 5¢ in trade. Brass, 22mm.

- - - - -

I will trade R7 and R8 Alaska Tokens for Yukon Territory tokens, Alaska scrip and Alaska National Bank Notes.

## RON BENICE

25 Stewart Place, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549

914-666-4414

- - - - -

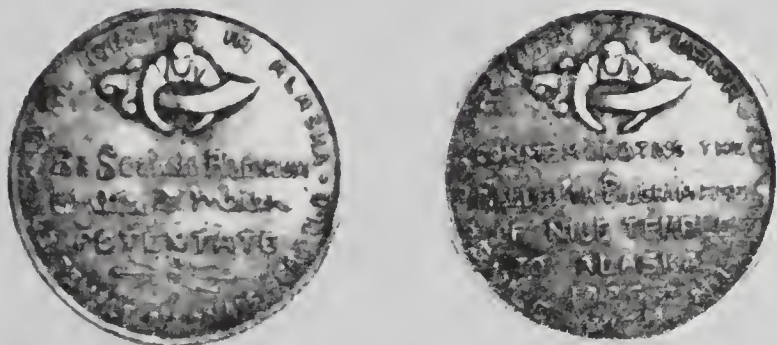
**WANTED** - For historical research & our book, "Licenses and Badges of B.C." We need dog licences, chauffeurs, taxi, & old drivers licences, auto and vehicle, bicycle, peddlers, canvassers, inspectors, fishing, hunting, & most all other B.C. licences & badges, or any related items for above. We will buy or trade. Many items available for trade: War medals and badges, trade dollars, medallions, Canadian, U.S.A. and world coins & stamps, pocket watches & many misc. items of collectible interests. Please write to

John Hnatiuk, P.O. Box 4944 Phone  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6B 4A6 596-6303



## ALASKAN SHRINER MEDALS AND TOKENS

We wrote to Al Aska Shrine in Anchorage in hopes of getting more information about the medals and tokens issued since 1961, but have received no response.



The earliest Alaskan Shriner medal that we know of was reported in "Alaska's Coinage Through the Ages" by Gould, Bressett and Kaye and Nancy Dethridge. It is inscribed "To The Nobility In Alaska J. Meier, Potentate, Nile Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Seattle" on the obverse. The reverse states "Commemorating The Eleventh Pilgrimage Of Nile Temple To Alaska, 1925, Smile with Nile". The piece is struck in copper, and is 34mm.



The Anchorage Shrine Circus token of 1961 has always been one of the least expensive and abundant Alaska's trade tokens. It is struck in aluminum and is 25mm in diameter.



"Smile with Nile" is repeated on the above medal issued during the Alaska Purchase Centennial. Issued by the Alaska Shrine Patrol, it features the standard Purchase Centennial totem pole on the reverse. It is aluminum, 34mm, with a hole as made.



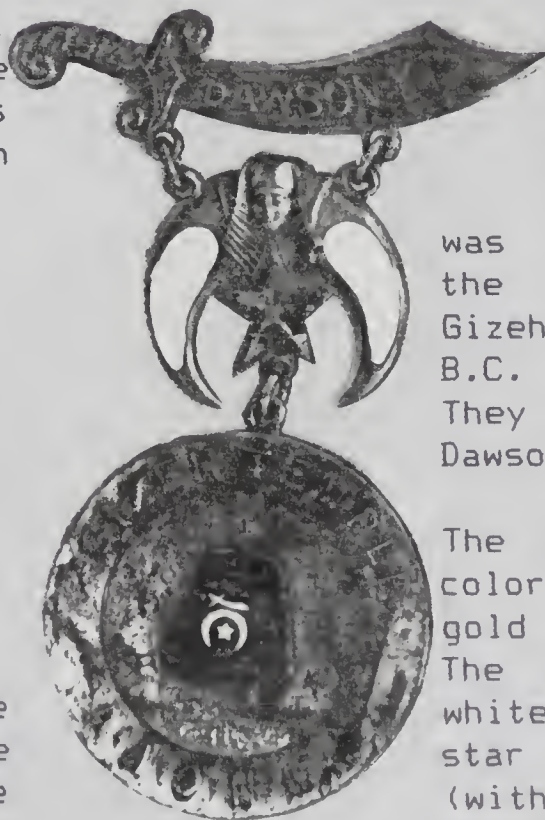
Al Aska Temple also issued a medal in 1967. This medal featured the standard sword, crescent and star emblems of the Shriners. The reverse has the standard Alaska Purchase totem pole. It is brass, 40mm.

## YUKON MASONIC AND SHRINER ITEMS

Yukon items tend to be a bit scarcer than Alaskan. This is due to the remoteness and the smaller population.



One Masonic penny is known from the Yukon. This is from the Yukon Chapter, R.A.M. in Whitehorse.

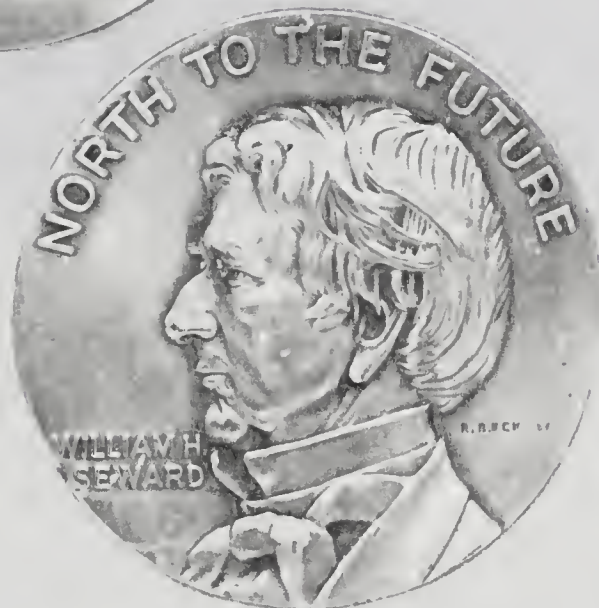


The medal illustrated to the right was featured in the November, 1981 issue of ATC&PN. This medal was issued to commemorate the pilgrimage of the Gizeh Temple of Victoria, B.C. to Dawson in 1914. They were hosted by the Dawson Mystic Shrine Club.

The gold pan is silver in color, with red, black, gold and white enameling. The crescent is brass with white enameling, while the star is enameled in red (with brass showing through). The sword is brass. The medal was made by Whitehead and Hoag.



## PURCHASE CENTENNIAL



Illustrated above are the obverse and reverse of the Alaska Purchase Centennial medals made by Medallie Arts Co. of New York. Each set is comprised of one silver and one bronze medal with matching serial numbers. Each medal is housed in its original box. We have just purchased an estate with a number of these sets. Previously, these have sold for as much as \$250. Because of our quantity purchase, we can offer these at prices you will not believe.

Some of the silver medals in these sets are heavily spotted. There is no spotting on the bronze medal. These sets are offered at \$100 per set. The spots are tiny, but

there are a lot of them.

One set contains a silver medal that is lightly spotted. If we offered this set by itself, we probably would not mention the spots. In the presence of the other sets, the spotting is minor. This set is offered for \$110.

The remaining sets are attractive sets. If there is any spotting, it is not worth mentioning. These sets are priced at \$135.00 per set.

Please note that in the past, we have paid \$125 for these sets for our customers. This is an outstanding opportunity to obtain a beautiful example of medallie sculpture for your collection. The quantity is strictly limited to those sets on hand. We do expect these to sell out quickly, so we suggest that you act without delay to obtain your set at these bargain prices. To order, please use the order blank below.

## ----- ARCI POLAR BEARS



We have just received our first shipment of our new Polar Bear one ounce silver rounds. These have a proof-like finish, and feature our standard "Denali" reverse. These are priced at \$12 each or 10 for \$100.

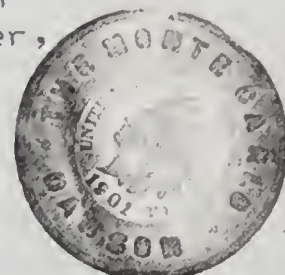
We expect these to be a good seller during the tourist season. Order yours now before this first shipment is gone. Please use the order blank below.





A.R.C.I., P.O. BOX 2832, FAIRBANKS, AK 99707 \* SUBSCRIPTION \$10.00/YR.  
VOLUME X, NUMBER 5.

JUNE, 1988.



### DAWSON'S GOLD RUSH THEATERS

(Excerpted from an article by Michael R. Booth featured in the Spring, 1962 issue of The Beaver, the publication of the Hudson's Bay Co.)

Dawson's first theatre was the Opera House, a log building with a bar and gambling rooms in the front and a theatre in the rear, with a stage, boxes at each side and benches on the floor (all Dawson theatres, whether canvas, log or frame, followed this architectural pattern.

Not satisfied with one Grand Opening in August, the Monte Carlo had another in October. It was the first theatre in Dawson to be fitted with electric lights, in addition to gas chandeliers and candelabra; all lights were shaded, a refinement lending justice to The Klondike Nugget's statement that "the appearance of this popular resort is fast approaching luxury."

### THE MONTE CARLO THEATRE ... All Star Bill ...

The Only **Blanche La Mont** The  
Nellie La More Florence Broc

Moving Pictures  
of the  
BULL FIGHT



BROWN & T  
DICK ALDER  
ALEX. SCHW  
SARA REED  
DARBY BUT  
EDNA W  
HELEN ANN

Fred N. Tracy the Popular Baritone and others

**ADMISSION 50 CENTS**

Including Check Good for Drink at Theatre Bar

Fires and financial failure were the chief hazards for theatre operators. The first Opera House burnt down in the 1897 Thanksgiving Day fire, the Tivoli in the great fire of April 1899, the Monte Carlo and the second Opera House in January 1900.

Success in Dawson's theatre business, however, meant considerable financial gain. Men had nowhere to go in the evenings but saloons and theatres, and the popular ones were packed. If he chose to leave the crowded saloon at the front of the house and pass through to the theatre at the back, a man bought a ticket for 50 cents, which also entitled him to a drink or a cigar. (Editor's note: admission to the Monte Carlo was 50 cents, "Including Check for Drink at Theatre Bar").

Continued on page 31.



## EDITORIAL

One often wonders where the collectibles of today will end up.

The 12 piece, 1 oz. silver Trans-Alaska Pipeline sets are a good example. These were sold primarily from 1974 to 1977. We sold a lot of them. Mintage figures, if memory serves me, run from 18,000 for the first of the series to about 3,000 each on the last three. That is a lot of silver medals.

But they seem to have disappeared. We do know of a couple of "hoards" in the hands of people who were selling the medals at the time. But very few come in over the counter. Where have they gone??

The first assumption is based on the nature of the construction of the Pipeline itself. Most of the workers were "outsiders", that is non-Alaskans. The only part of Alaska these these folks saw were the pipeline camps and the inside of airline terminals. Many sets of these medals just zoomed outside with the workers. But what of the sets that were sold to locals.

Secondly, many sets are treasured mementos to their owners. They have fond memories of the days when they were making pipeline wages. They will not be sold until the estate is being settled, but then only if the family members do not want to keep it.

Finally, the sets were sold at a substantial premium. You cannot sell a set and break even. This is real good incentive to not sell. Only those in a position of needing to sell are doing so.

This brings us to the whole point of this monologue. We have always been available to purchase collections from estates in Alaska. We have seen several come in lately. In these have been items primarily from the 60's. That being the case, the "big" Alaskan collectible in the 60's were the Alaska Purchase Centennial items. One of the more popular items was the large medals made by Medallie Art Co., offered in our May newsletter. This was previously a scarce item, much in demand. We now have on hand in the store more than we have seen in the last 10 years (10 sets).

We have also seen a few of the platinum-silver-bronze set minted at the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia for the Purchase Centennial. We believe only 100 sets were made (we are waiting from an answer from the Mint on this).

The next few years are probably going to be an excellent buying opportunity for items issued in the 60's. They are now coming back into the market. We suspect that if you want a set of Pipeline medals, and can wait, then the late 90's will be the time these will become available once again!

- - - - -

## ALASKA FOOD STAMP TOKENS

The April issue of the TAMS (Token & Medal Society) Journal featured a 14 page article by Ron Benice on Alaskan Food Stamp tokens.

The article provides historical background into the origins of the Food Stamp program. It describes the procedures involved from the inception of the program, until 1979, when the use of tokens ended.

The tokens designs are explained, with varieties being noted in a section preceding the listing. In this way, the listing can make reference to standard designs and be fairly compact.

Tokens are listed from 41 different cities, towns and villages. Most are plastic, with some paper, and one set of metal tokens from Teller. Most are from small villages that had not had a token before these!

Food Stamp tokens are some of the few modern tokens that truly served the purpose that tokens were meant to serve. We hope that when the second edition of Alaska Tokens by Mr. Benice is printed, that a section will be allotted to these.

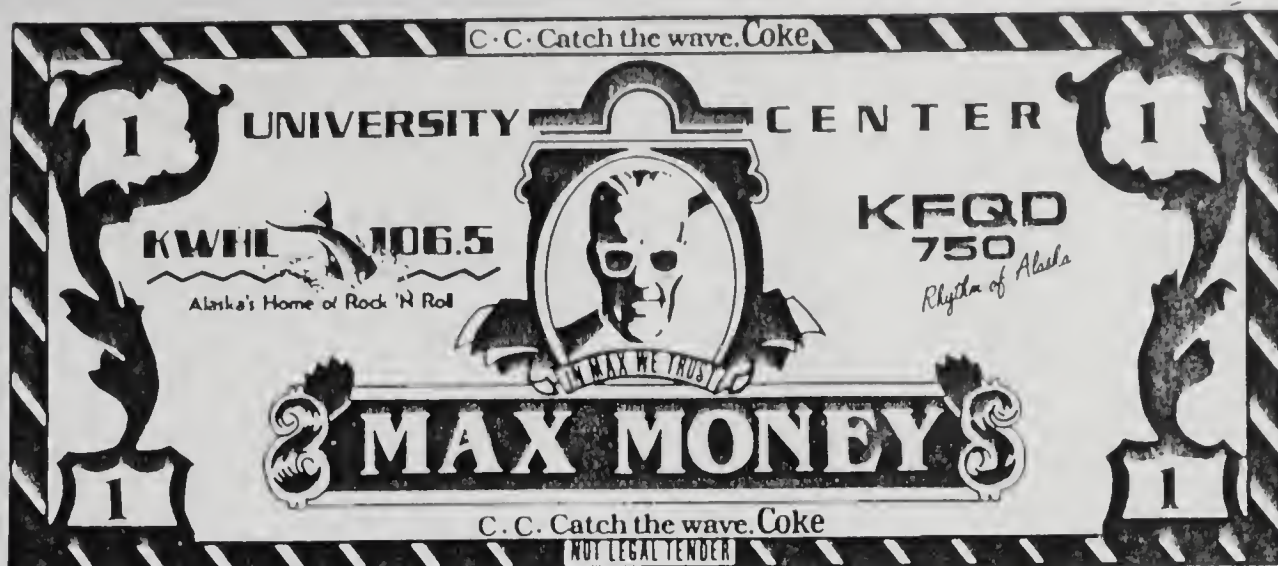
We have copies of this issue of the TAMS Journal available for \$3.00, postpaid. Please use the order blank attached to the last page.

- - - - -

## PRICES REALIZED

Alan Weinberg reports that an A.A. Bower token from Juneau sold for \$440.





## MAX MONEY

Earlier this year KFQD 750, KWHL 106.5, The University Center, Coca-Cola and Anchorage Nissan got together and sponsored some promotional advertising using "Max Money."

The program lasted for three months and was very successful. You saved your Coke cans and then turned them in at Max Headquarters in the University Center for Max Money. Turn in six Coke cans and get one Max Money Dollar. You could use your Max Money to buy things at Max Headquarters, participating stores or save it to bid on items at auction, like computers, wind-surfers, diamonds and even a Nissan pick-up!

The Max Money was printed on white paper in black and red ink. Dimensions are 5 1/2 inches long by 2 3/4 inches wide. While supplies lasts, you can still get some for your collection. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and one dollar to KFQD Numismatic Dept., 9200 Lake Otis Pkwy., Anchorage, Alaska 99507, and you will received five Max Money dollars.

-Bryan E. Cleary

I will trade R7 and R8 Alaska Tokens for Yukon Territory tokens, Alaska scrip and Alaska National Bank Notes.

**RON BENICE**

25 Stewart Place, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549

914-666-4414

## GOLD RUSH THEATRES cont.

Dawson's frenzied theatrical life continued unabated until the winter of 1899. The Palace Grand kept opening under new management; the Opera House and the Monte Carlo burnt down; a new theater, the Orpheum was being built, its opening night eagerly awaited by performers thrown out of work by the destruction of the other two theatres. News of a great gold strike at Nome reached the city. Thousands of miners headed for the new paydirt, and the migration continued steadily through the winter.

The Orpheum opened in February 1900, and played a regular fare of legitimate drama. But the good days were gone.

(Our thanks to Brian Denman for bringing this to our attention.)

## PIONEER GRILL MEAL TICKET

The Fairbanks Daily News-Miner reported on February 19, 1938 that Southall Pfund won a meal ticket at the Pioneer Grill by calculating the number of beans in a jar! Here is another piece of exnumia to be on the look out for.

## ALASKA BULLION & COINS

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GOLD SILVER COINS  
COIN SUPPLIES & BOOKS

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10am-4:00pm Trading hours



## NEWFOUNDLAND TRADE DOLLARS



Windsor, Newfoundland (population 7,000) has issued a 1988 trade dollar to mark the 50th anniversary of their incorporation in 1938 as a town. Windsor is the second oldest town incorporated in Newfoundland (St. John's, the capital is the oldest). Royal consent was given to the town on November 14, 1938 for the town to be called Windsor. The town seal and flag show one of the towers of Windsor Castle situated in Windsor, England.

The flag of Windsor is featured on the obverse. Windsor's town hall is depicted on the reverse. Winston Green, chairman of the town's 50th Anniversary Committee, designed the trade dollar.

Sherritt Mint of Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta struck 5000 specimens on 33mm nickel bonded steel blanks and an additional 100 gold plated NBS specimens.

Specimens of the nickel bonded steel trade dollars are available at \$1.50 postpaid from the Town of Windsor, P.O. Box 220, Windsor, Nfld., Canada A0H 2H0.



Another trade dollar has been issued by the Grand Falls Chamber of Commerce. This trade dollar commemorates the town of Grand Falls, Newfoundland being named the Forestry Capital of Canada for 1988. The Canadian Forestry Association bestowed the honor on the town in 1987. The award, established in 1979, is presented annually to the community that demonstrates their commitment to, and dependence on, the forest industry and the civic-minded recognition of the importance of the

forests to the community.

The obverse side, designed by Larry Parsons, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce shows in its center the 1988 Forestry Capital Logo designed for Grand Falls. The town's crest is featured on the reverse.

The Sherritt Mint struck 10,000 pieces on 33mm nickel bonded steel blanks. Specimens are available for \$1.50 postpaid from the Grand Falls Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 272, Grand Falls, Newfoundland, Canada A2A 2J7.

Grand Falls is situated in the central part of Newfoundland near its northern coast. It has a population of 10,000 and serves as a service center for another 15,000 people in nearby towns. The major industry in Grand Falls and within central Newfoundland is forestry. An Abitibi-Price pulp and paper mill is located in Grand Falls.

The town was founded in 1905 by the Harmsworth newspaper barons from England for the manufacture of pulp and paper for the newspaper industry. It was a company owned town until 1961 when Abitibi-Price yielded control of the town directly to its citizens. Grand Falls was incorporated as a town in 1961.

-Jerry Remick

**WANTED** - For historical research & our book, "Licenses and Badges of B.C." We need dog licences, chauffeurs, taxi, & old drivers licences, auto and vehicle, bicycle, peddlers, canvassers, inspectors, fishing, hunting, & most all other B.C. licences & badges, or any related items for above. We will buy or trade. Many items available for trade: War medals and badges, trade dollars, medallions, Canadian, U.S.A. and world coins & stamps, pocket watches & many misc. items of collectible interests. Please write to

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**WANTED TO BUY:  
ALL ALASKAN  
TOKENS & MEDALS**

A.R.C.I. IS COMPILING A NEW PRICE LIST. IF YOU HAVE ITEMS FOR SALE, NOW IS THE TIME!!



## NEAT MIRROR!

Alan Weinberg submitted the mirror pictured to the right. It is hand painted and multi-colored white, green, black and brown. It features a ship in polar ice, with a hunter and polar bear facing each other across a crack in the polar ice. The frame is ornate brass, with a beveled mirror.

Unfortunately, we do not know where Consolidated Ice Company from, but the mirror is an outstanding polar-related item!

## NAVAL AIR BASE — KODIAK

Illustrated below is another interesting item submitted by Alan Weinberg.

This is a hanging ribbon from the Carpenters Local 2162, Kodiak Naval Air Base. This helps to date the Carpenters Local token listed as B-T2a in the transportation token section of Ron Benice's Alaska Tokens.

The ribbon is yellow with a brass hanger. No mention is made of the color of the printing on the ribbon.

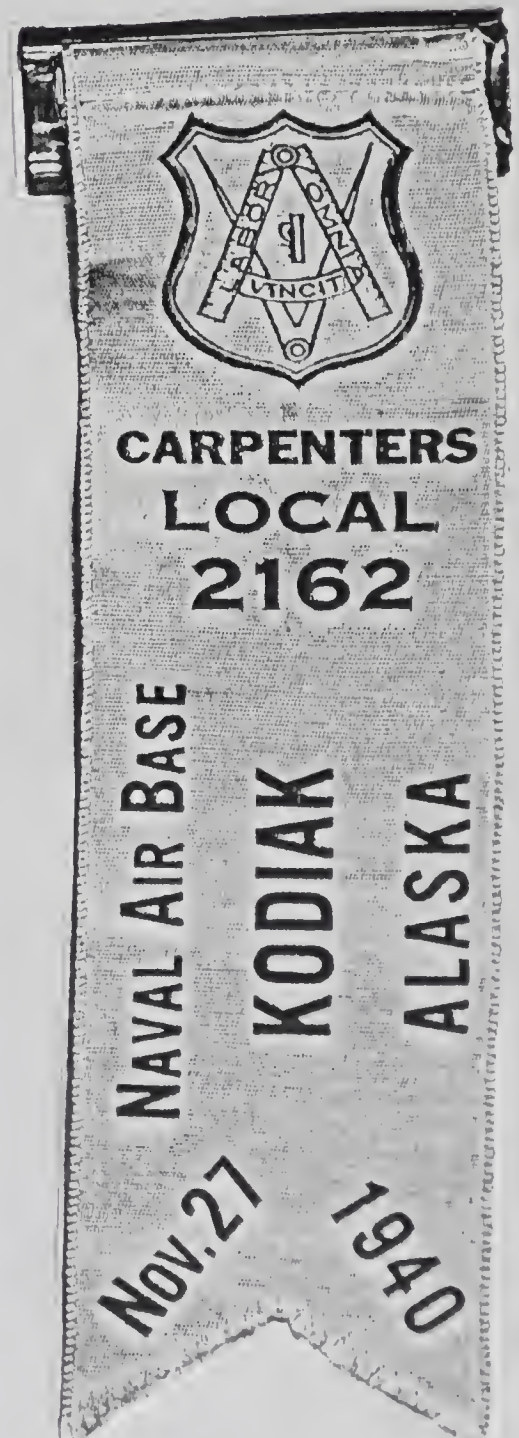


The token was reportedly used as a transportation token. Other tokens from the Naval Operations Base are known, but their use also poses mystery.

## TAKE ME TO THE KLONDIKE



Well worn aluminum token!





## RIVERBOAT NENANA



In conjunction with the University of Alaska Museum, we are pleased to present our latest one ounce silver medal.

Portrayed on the obverse of this medal is the sternwheeler "Nenana" as depicted by well-known artist James Behlke. Built by the Alaskan Railroad in 1932, the "Nenana" was the last of the commercial freighting sternwheelers constructed, and operated until it was decommissioned in 1954. It is currently on display at Alaskaland Pioneer Park in Fairbanks.

The University was established in 1917 and has grown to include campuses in every major Alaskan city. The museum in Fairbanks is an important part of the University and was listed as one of the top ten attractions in the state.

Only 2,500 silver medals will be struck. To order, please use the order blank attached to the last page. There will also be a limited edition of 100 struck in gold. Please write for the current price quote and estimated time of delivery if you would like to order these.

Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist, published 10 times per year, is a publication of Alaska Rare Coin Investments. All articles remain the property of the authors and may not be reprinted without their consent.

Editor - Dick Hanscom  
Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth  
Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick

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## ALASKA LAGER BEER



## Welcome to Alaska

This coupon entitles you to a  
**FREE** glass of Alaska  
Lager Beer  
when presented at any local  
beer parlor.

SKOL !!!

The above is not only a label (we assume), but it was also a trade item!

The front is multi-colored with yellow, blue, red, gold, green and white. It is copyrighted 1936. The back is printed in dark green.

Has any one seen this item before? Any background information would be appreciated.

### Collector's Advertising Rates:

1 page - \$15	1/2 page - \$8
	1/4 page - \$5
1/5 page, business card size - \$15 for 5 months.	

Classified ads: 50 ¢/line (42 characters)  
Commercial Advertisers, write for rates.





Henry C. (or G.) Kubley opened a cigar and confectionery store in Ketchikan in 1908. In 1911, Lawrence H. Kubley joined as a clerk and and curios were added to the business. In 1912 they opened a general store.

## Kubley's Post Card Emporium

L. H. KUBLEY, Propr.

MARINE VIEWS ESPECIALLY

Souvenirs, Indian Baskets, Curios, Moccasins, Etc. Confectionery, Tobaccoos and Periodicals

Mail Orders Taken

KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

1917

From 1914 to 1917 Henry operated the general store. Lawrence ran the other business from 1914 as the curios grew. It continued mainly as a cigar store through the 1920's although he was listed as unemployed in 1923. In 1935 liquor was added, in 1947 the tobacco was dropped, and in 1952 the business became a bar. The trail ended in 1956. One interesting aside - in 1932 Lawrence Kubley was the town's fire chief.

### FOR THE RECORD



(FORT WAINWRIGHT): 9th U.S. Cavalry, 4th Squadron (Indian on horseback). Reverse, We Can, We Will (crossed swords, helicopter and armored personal carrier). 40mm, Brz.



UNALASKA: Carp's Tavern, 5¢ in trade. 20mm, Aluminum (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



"Snow and Sand" is the title of the medal illustrated above, issue by the Society of Medallists. It is designed by Patricia Verani, who also designed the Constitution Dollar of 1987. One of her designs was also selected for the 1988 Olympic Dollar.

"Snow and Sand" depicts modes of transportation in the Arctic and in the desert. Four sled dogs and an Eskimo driver come "rushing at you and come right out of the bottom of the medal," according to the brochure.

### YUKON RARITIES ON THE BLOCK



Two rarities from the Yukon Territory will be on the auction block in the Everson and Faught Sale, to be conducted by Bowers and Merena in New York City on June 13th through the 15th.

Illustrated above is one of only two known surviving gold bars from the Dawson City Assay Office. It is dated 1898, and valued at \$140. Its weight is 7 oz. and 17 grains.

Also to be sold is a Canadian Bank of Commerce \$5 note overprinted "DAWSON" in red ink. The note is dated 1901, and was in one of the final shipments of specially overprinted notes sent to Dawson.



A.R.C.I., P.O. BOX 2832, FAIRBANKS, AK 99707 \* SUBSCRIPTION \$10.00/YR.  
VOLUME X, NUMBER 6.

JULY, 1988.

## DR. ELISHA KENT KANE ARCTIC EXPLORER

Elisha Kent Kane was born on Feb. 3, 1820 at Philadelphia. He studied geology, natural history and mathematics at the University of Virginia, preparing for a career in civil engineering. Rheumatic fever forced him to leave school. He then entered the University of Pennsylvania to study medicine. He graduated in 1842, number one in his class.

Rather than establish a private practice, in 1843 he joined the Navy as an assistant surgeon and traveled to China, Brazil, India, Ceylon, Egypt, Europe and the Philippines. The year 1847 found him recovering from malaria.



DR. E. K. KANE

When the British Polar Expedition of 1845, lead by Sir John Franklin failed to return, many international relief expeditions were formed. In 1850, Kane volunteered for the first American expedition lead by Lt. De Haven, and was made senior medical officer. This expedition, as well as Kane's later expedition, was sponsored by Henry Grinnell, a New York merchant. They searched for 15 months for Franklin, but only the expedition's abandoned winter quarters could be found.

Upon his return from the First Grinnell Expedition, he planned his own expedition to search for survivors of the Franklin Expedition. The Second Grinnell Expedition left New York on May 30, 1853. The brig Advance, which was also used on the First Grinnell Expedition, was manned by a crew of 18. Ten were in Naval service and 8 were volunteers.

Kane engaged the services of an Eskimo hunter and guide, as well as sled dogs for use of the expedition. He adopted the ways of the Eskimo, eating raw seal and walrus meat. One gets the impression that he quite enjoyed walrus liver from the following passage: "The liver of a walrus eaten with little slices of his delicately permeating fat - oh! call it not blubber - of a verity it is a delicious morsel. Fire would ruin the curt, pithy expression of vitality which belongs to its uncooked juices."

Despite the use of native techniques, the crew of the Advance endured severe hardships. The effects of scurvy, typhoid and the elements took their toll. Three of the original 18 perished. They spent two winters frozen in at 78 degrees 37 minutes North in Rensselaer Harbor

Continued on page 38.



EDITORIAL

The summer doldrums are here again, along with a severe case of manana. I did manage to get this out on time, though!

Had some fun researching the article on Dr. Elisha Kent Kane. Research can be frustrating at times. I wrote to the headquarters of Modern Free & Associated Masons of the World in Columbus, Georgia, and did not receive a reply. Wanted some historical information on the Kane Lodge to dress up the article. Oh, well. Can't have everything.

We have heard that the gold ingot from Dawson mentioned in last month's issue sold for \$18,000 to \$19,000. Haven't a firm prices realized yet.

It is getting to the point where I can't remember if I have run something before or not. Case in point is the Malemute Saloon wood in For The Record. And the filler on the Preiss Bakery looks familiar. Hopefully, when we complete our tenth year, we will have a ten year index to refer to.

We have received some information from the Department of the Treasury concerning the silver, bronze and platinum medals made at the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia. This will be presented next month.

It has been some time since I have appealed to readers for information for this newsletter. We have pretty much exhausted the articles at hand, and are in need of "lead" articles. Your space fillers and items for the record are always welcome, too. Please consider sharing you knowledge with us so that we can spread it to others.

- - - - -

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HOMER, ALASKA 99603  
907-235-7400

GOLD SILVER COINS  
COIN SUPPLIES & BOOKS

Mon-Fri. 10am-5:30pm Store hours  
10am-4:00pm Trading hours

YELLOWKNIFE, NWT

The Caribou Carnival Association in Yellowknife has released a 1987 medal. One side of the medal shows a dog team pulling a sled (the same as on earlier trade dollars). The other side shows a caricature of Carnie the Caribou enacting various winter sports of the area.

Sherritt Mint struck the medal on 33mm nickel-bonded-steel blanks. These are available for \$2.00 each, postpaid from the Caribou Carnival Association, P.O. Box 1258, Yellowknife, NWT, Canada, X1A 2N2.

-Jerry Remick

- - - - -

1988 GANDER TRADE DOLLAR



To celebrate the 50th anniversary this year of the first aircraft to land at Gander, Newfoundland, the Gander Chamber of Commerce has issued an "Aviation Dollar". The first aircraft, depicted on the obverse side, was a Box Moth flown by Captain Douglas Fraser. It landed in Gander in 1938. A modern day jet aircraft is depicted on the reverse side. Thus, the trade dollar represents Gander Airport 1938 and Gander International Airport, 1988.

Gregory Seaward of Gander designed the trade dollar. Sherritt Mint struck 12,000 specimens on 33 mm nickel-bonded-steel blanks.

Specimens are available at \$1.50 postpaid from the Gander Chamber of Commerce, 109 Trans-Canada Highway, Gander, Newfoundland, Canada A1V 1P6. Postpaid prices for back issues (all showing aircraft that have landed at Gander) are 1983 (\$3.00), 1984 (\$3.00), 1985 (\$2.50), 1986 (\$2.00), and 1987 (\$1.50).

-Jerry Remick



## DR. KANE, cont.

In May of 1855, the Advance was abandoned as the crew took to the ship's boats for an 83 day sea and overland journey to Upernavik, Greenland. A relief expedition returned them to New York in October of 1855.

While this expedition did not find any survivors of the Franklin Expedition, it did accomplish many geographic, geologic and meteorologic observations. This included charting 700 miles of the northwest coast of Greenland. They also established a "furthest North" mark of 81 degrees 27 minutes N.

Elisha Kent Kane returned to New York to receive many honors. He was in poor health, so he travelled to Havana, Cuba for rest and relaxation. He died shortly after his arrival on Feb. 16, 1857 at the age of 37.

Worthy of note is that the expedition's surgeon, Dr. Isaac I. Hayes, lead an expedition in 1860 to the same general area as the Second Grinnell Expedition, and bettered Dr. Kane's furthest north mark by 40 miles.



George H. Lovett, a die sinker from New York City produced a memorial medal for Kane in 1859. This medal featured a bust of Dr. Kane facing right. Below the bust is the ship Advance trapped in arctic ice. The reverse features a Masonic sanctuary and the legend "NON NOBIS SOLUM SED TOTO MUNDO NATI" (not born to us alone but to the whole world). The date is at the bottom in Roman numerals (MDCCCLIX). These were struck in bronze and bronze silverplate. They are 50.4mm in diameter.

Lovett is from a family of reknowned die-sinkers. His father, Robert Lovett, Sr. is

known to have worked in Philadelphia from 1816 to 1822, and thereafter in New York. In addition to George H., Robert Jr. and J.D. were also die sinkers. Robert Jr. was responsible for the dies for the Confederate cent of 1861.



The Kane Lodge of Free and Associated Masons in New York issued a membership medal honoring the arctic explorer. Dr. Kane in arctic clothing is sitting on an ice block looking back at his ship Advance frozen into the ice at Rensselaer Harbor. The obverse also features an American flag and Masonic emblems. The reverse bears the word "MEMBER" inside a wreath, and meeting information around the border. In small letters at approximately 5 o'clock is "R. STOLL, N.Y.", the maker. The medal is made of bronze and is 41mm in diameter.

### Bibliography:

Dieck, A.M., editor. The Marvelous Wonders of the Polar World. Philadelphia, The National Publishing Company, 1885.

Collector's Auctions Limited, March 27, 1988. Catalogued by Dick Johnson, Danbury, Ct.

Kane, Elisha Kent. Arctic Explorations in 1853, 1854, 1855, in two volumes. New York, Arno Press & The New York Times, 1971. A reprint of the 1856 edition.

Rasky, Frank. The Polar Voyagers. Toronto, McGraw-Hill Ryerson Ltd., 1976.

### FEEDBACK - ALASKA LAGER BEER

Lee Poleske reports that according to American Breweries by Donald Bull, the Pilsner Brewing Co. of Alaska operated from 1935 to 1942 at two different addresses in Ketchikan.



## FOR THE RECORD



**ANCHORAGE:** Roberts Billiard-Bowling, 5¢ in trade. Brass, 24mm (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



**ANCHORAGE:** Eagle Nest Hotel, 5 Wooden Dollars. Black on wood. Some one has also written "Polaris" on it.



**ESTER:** Malemute Saloon, Good for 2 Bits. Black on wood. We have reported other woods from the Malemute. Is this one different?



**FAIRBANKS:** Runway Inn, Good for one free drink. Black on wood. Also written on it is "Frenchie".



**HOMER:** Hobo Jim's Alaskan Bar, Good for a Silver Bullet or \$2.50 in trade. Alum., 32mm (submitted by John Loperfido).

## The Blue Room Courtesy Card

*1 night only*

1085 Steese Hwy.  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

(907) 456-1491

**FAIRBANKS:** The Blue Room, Courtesy Card, hand written for "1 night only." Hmmm. The Blue Room was a strip joint. Could this be what we think it is???? Black on blue card.



**WHITEHORSE, YUKON:** Nelson's Home Hardware, 10% Off regular price merchandise. Black on wood (submitted by Brian Denman).

## Good for One 50c Lunch at the Summit Roadhouse

**MAVERICK:** Summit Roadhouse, Good for One 50c Lunch. Black on red. Les Hill believes this to be from the Summit Roadhouse at the "Dome" Summit between Grand Forks and Granville, Yukon.

**WANTED** - For historical research & our book, "Licenses and Badges of B.C." We need dog licences, chauffeurs, taxi, & old drivers licences, auto and vehicle, bicycle, peddlers, canvassers, inspectors, fishing, hunting, & most all other B.C. licences & badges, or any related items for above. We will buy or trade. Many items available for trade: War medals and badges, trade dollars, medallions, Canadian, U.S.A. and world coins & stamps, pocket watches & many misc. items of collectible interests. Please write to

John Hnatiuk, P.O. Box 4944 Phone  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6B 4A6 596-6303



# ALASKA STEAMSHIP COMPANY

## ALASKA STEAMSHIP COMPANY

1936



PASS Mrs. C. E. Denney  
Wife of President  
Erie Railroad Company

DURING CURRENT YEAR UNLESS OTHERWISE ORDERED  
AND SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS ON BACK

*Stephen Birch*

PRESIDENT

We have recently acquired 15 Alaska Steamship Company yearly passes. As any of you that collect transportation items know, passes are the ultimate in transportation tokens. These run from 1928 to 1941, lacking only 1931. There are 12 different and 3 duplicates. All were issued to Mr. or Mrs. C.E. Denny, the vice president of the Erie Railroad Company (and later the Northern Pacific Railway) and his wife.

The set of 12 different years is available for \$120. Singles are available for \$12 each. On singles purchases, we will send the earliest year available at the time your order is received. Please use the order blank below!

Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist, published 10 times per year, is a publication of Alaska Rare Coin Investments. All articles remain the property of the authors and may not be reprinted without their consent.

Editor - Dick Hanscom  
Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth  
Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick

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1/4 page - \$5  
1/5 page, business card size - \$15 for 5 months.

Classified ads: 50 ¢/line (42 characters)  
Commercial Advertisers, write for rates.

# HOARD FIND



The scarce Fairview Hotel Pool Hall token has appeared in hoard quantity. We have recently purchase about 100 of these, and have heard a rumor that this is only part of the hoard.

These are all dug tokens, so there is corrosion on all specimens. The majority of these are legible but in terrible condition.

We are offering samples of this token as follows:

- 1) A very acceptable specimen with minimal corrosion - \$50 (only 6 or so qualify).
- 2) Not as nice, the obverse will be corroded but completely legible - \$10.
- 3) The dregs! Heavy corrosion, but fully identifiable - \$3. With some cleaning, some of these would not be too bad, depending on your standards.

Based on the above information, the Fairview Hotel Pool Hall is still a scarce token in decent condition.

Please use the order blank below. Your satisfaction is guaranteed on condition 1 and 2. If not satisfied, they may be returned for a full refund. Condition 3 is as is with no returns (what do you expect for \$3!).

## PREISS BAKERY

From the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, Dec. 1, 1931: "Under the management of Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Wagner, the Preiss Bakery on Second Ave. reopened today under the name of North Pole Bakery. Mr. Wagner has leased the building and equipment for 3 years and says, "The spotless cleanliness which prevailed with Mr. and Mrs. Preiss will continue under our management. The bakery will handle all kinds of baked goods and will specialize in fancy cakes."





A.R.C.I., P.O. BOX 2832, FAIRBANKS, AK 99707 \* SUBSCRIPTION \$10.00/YR.  
VOLUME X, NUMBER 7.

AUGUST, 1988.

## A TOKEN FANTASY

Asbury Wanagel was born in 1867 at Sitka, just after the transfer of Russian America to the United States. His family originated in the Ukraine, but his great-great grandfather was exiled by Czar Alexander I in 1821 to Siberia. From here, he made his way to the coast, and found employment with the Russian America Co. Asbury's grandfather was born in 1825 at Kodiak, and his father was also born there in 1843. In the employ of the Company, Asbury's father was sent to Sitka in 1863. On the trip from Kodiak to Sitka, his ship was wrecked off Kayak Island. The crew and passengers were rescued by a New England trading vessel captained by one Asbury Johnson. It is to this chance event that Asbury Wanagel owes his name of mixed heritage.

Asbury was a bright lad. His father had been trained as a trader by the Russian American Co., and with the sale of Alaska to the United States, the elder Wanagel pursued his trade under a new flag throughout southeastern Alaska. Tiring of the travelling, he returned to Sitka in 1880 and opened a general merchandise business and proceeded to train his son as a merchant.

In 1894, Asbury moved to Juneau to work for Dave Martin, a friend of the family who had left Sitka about 10 years earlier. Mr. Martin, recognizing a good business opportunity and knowing Asbury's integrity, decided to grubstake Asbury in the general merchandise business, and packed him off for the Klondike in 1896.

A strapping 19 year old, Asbury made a very positive impression on those he encountered on the trip north, and acquired the nickname, the Mad Russian. His strength and vigor were legendary. Unfortunately, the trip awakened the wanderlust in him and he was destined to face a life of moving from one town to the next, following the gold.

It was from Dave Martin that Asbury learned the value of using tokens in a place of business. Using tokens freed up whatever cash was at hand, with a "promissory note" on merchandise already in stock. Planning in advance, Asbury brought with him his first trade token. This token simply stated "A.W., Klondike, Good for 25¢ in trade." It was made of aluminum and 25mm in diameter. He briefly operated a store in Grand Forks, but soon moved to Dawson. This first token was used in both locations.



In Dawson, his business prospered, but he was not happy, seeing greener pastures on the beaches at Nome. In 1900, he sold his business there, acquiring enough funds to more than adequately compensate Mr. Martin for his confidence, and to order to be delivered to Nome enough merchandise for a first class general store, along

Continued on page 43.



## EDITORIAL

As stated last month, summer has taken its toll on my ambition. Just a few things to touch on here.

The article on the Purchase Centennial medals mentioned in last month's editorial will be run next month, unless something more timely comes along.

This month's lead article was a brainstorm I got while in the shower one morning. Do some of my best thinking while soaking up hot water. You can be the judge as to the quality of idea.

I will state one more time for those who have not received the message yet - the article "A Token Fantasy" is just that, a fantasy. It is fiction. The tokens do not exist. You may bid in our fantasy auction, but you will not get any tokens, nor will you have to honor your bids. I am interested in learning how you would value these types of tokens, taking into account the historical background, the type of business and its location, the fabrication of the token and any other intangible that helps to value such a piece. It would even be beneficial if you placed your bid, and then told me why. A bid of \$10 on one token and only \$5 on another with the reason that it is "neater" is a very valid reason.

The bids, and any explanations will be reported in a later issue.

Finally, your submissions of articles, fillers and items "For the Record" are always appreciated. Please considering sharing your knowledge with others.

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Editor - Dick Hanscom

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### Subscription Rates:

US & Canada	\$8 per year
Elsewhere	\$16 per year

## PRICES REALIZED

Two items of interest were sold in the Bowers & Merena, Everson & Faught Sale, conducted on June 13th through the 15th. Both items were mentioned in the June, 1988 issue of ATC&PN.

The first was the gold ingot from the Dawson City Assay Office. Weighing 7 ounces and 17 grains, it sold for \$19,800 (including buyer's fee), more than 6 times its bullion value! An extreme rarity, there is only one other Dawson City Assay Office ingot known to have survived. This was from the Norweb collection.

The second item was a \$5 bank note from the Canadian Bank of Commerce, overprinted "DAWSON". Les Hill reports that the note is dated January 2nd, 1901 and was signed by Geo. A. Cox and E.E. Tiffin, clerk with the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Dawson at that time. Les also reports that this same note appeared in the Canadian Numismatic Association Convention Sale in 1956 as lot 635, and realized \$140, being purchased by R. Henry Norweb. This piece realized \$5,500 (including buyer's fee).

The buyers of both items are known to the collecting fraternity, but will not be revealed here out of respect for their privacy.

Our congratulations go to the lucky buyers, and their insurance agents (the premiums with have to go up!).

**WANTED** - For historical research & our book, "Licenses and Badges of B.C." We need dog licences, chauffeurs, taxi, & old drivers licences, auto and vehicle, bicycle, peddlers, canvassers, inspectors, fishing, hunting, & most all other B.C. licences & badges, or any related items for above. We will buy or trade. Many items available for trade: War medals and badges, trade dollars, medallions, Canadian, U.S.A. and world coins & stamps, pocket watches & many misc. items of collectible interests. Please write to

John Hnatiuk, P.O. Box 4944 Phone  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6B 4A6 596-6303

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1/4 page - \$5	

1/5 page, business card size - \$15 for 5 months.

Classified ads: 50 ¢/line (42 characters)  
Commercial Advertisers, write for rates.



## A TOKEN FANTASY, cont.

with an appropriate number of tokens. These tokens were an improvement on his Klondike tokens, stating "Wanagel General Merchant." The tokens are aluminum, 29mm in diameter, with the 12 1/2 cut out.



In 1901, he sold his store, and purchased the Aurora Saloon, a not quite prospering establishment. The previous owner had ordered tokens, and these arrived after Wanagel took over. These were very simple tokens, similar to many in use in Nome at the time. Illustrated below, they were brass, 21 mm.



He soon found that the Aurora was not his cup of tea (or hootch if you wish), sold out, and set up a small general store and roadhouse in Bluff, east of Nome on the coast. The Bluff Roadhouse tokens were the largest Wanagel was to issue, being 39mm and bi-metal.



Business was once again booming for Asbury, but wanderlust struck again. He received a letter from Sam Bonnifield, a gambler from Dawson, now in banking in the new settlement of Fairbanks. Sam advised that it was time to get in on the ground floor, to sell out in Bluff, and head to the new strike in the Tanana Valley.

Asbury sold out, again at a modest profit, but this time a different approach was taken to making money. After leaving Bluff, he traveled to St. Michael and purchased a

river steamer, hired a captain and went into the transportation business. The "Princess of Ukrainia" was the only vessel to fly the black and yellow colors of the Wanagel Trading Co. As was the custom, first class passengers received meal checks (tokens) upon payment of passage. These tokens were 24mm brass.



The profits from the first trip from St. Michael to Fairbanks was such that it allowed Asbury to enter another business upon arrival. Against the advice of Sam Bonnifield, Wanagel decided against Fairbanks, opting for Chena, which he felt was destined to be the transportation hub of the interior, being the southern terminus of the Tanana Valley Railroad. He bought a lot in the then just beginning Chena townsite, and constructed the largest building in town, a massive log structure, for his "Mad Russian Dance Hall". This establishment was destined (so he thought) to become the premier recreation establishment in the north. The token issued for the dance hall is his finest effort, being struck in thick 30mm copper. It was valued at "2 bits" (horse bits on the token).



At this point, Asbury's luck took a turn for the worst. His pride and joy, the "Princess of Ukrainia" ran aground and later sunk on the sand bars around St. Michael, and he had no insurance. This spelled the end of the Wanagel Trading Co. With Chena in decline, there were no buyers for his Mad Russian Dance Hall, and it was sold for salvage.

Asbury Wanagel was last seen heading down the Tanana River to the new strike at Tolovana.

Continued on Page 44.



A TOKEN FANTASY, cont.

Asbury Wanagel was unusual in that he issued tokens for all businesses that he had. He issued a number of very different tokens for a number of different types of businesses. Through an amazing piece of luck, we have managed to obtain a specimen of each of these tokens, and are offering them in a "fantasy" mail bid.

You may well ask if Dick has finally gone of the deep end, to which I respond, that I did that years ago. But the reason behind this is to see what you would be willing to pay for tokens of many different attributes. We have here a Yukon token inscribed "Klondike" that was "used" in both Grand Forks and Dawson, but otherwise a maverick; a maverick token "from" Nome, but in a neat style; a rather plain saloon token "from" Nome; a neat bi-metal road house token from a tough town; a river steamer token; and then my favorite, a copper token from the Mad Russian Dance Hall.

No claims are made as to the uniqueness of these tokens. You are buying "blind", not knowing if there is a hoard or just one piece will ever be available.

Terms of sale are you bid as much as you want, you do not buy anything, nor do you pay anything. Please bid as if this were a real auction. If you wouldn't normally bid, then you must decide if you should participate in this. The prices realized will be published in the next issue of ATC & PN. I will try to evaluate and interpret the results, but of course, my view point will be bias, as would others' point of view.

There is no bid sheet enclosed. Please use any piece of paper. But please note- **YOU ARE NOT BUYING ANYTHING, NOR DO THESE TOKENS EXIST.** This is a "Fantasy Auction", an exercise in human nature, education and entertainment. I had fun doing this, and I hope that you found it amusing enough to participate in the auction.

In case you are wondering about the name, Asbury Wanagel, it is my father's first name combined with my mother's maiden name (I am Anglo-Russo-Ukrainian!).

ANTARCTICA \$10



Fred Zinkann has struck again with an Antarctic related item. The above medal is 25mm (enlarged to show detail), and is struck in silver (75), pewter (55) and tantalum (14)! Tantalum, a hard metal for a hard climate. Prices are \$6.50, \$4.50 and \$50. It commemorates the 30th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year of 1957.

The obverse features a "snowflake crown" with the legend "WHERE ALL DOMINIONS AND DIRECTIONS MEET THROUGH WIND AND ICE UMBRAGE" and "ANTARCTICA \$10". Stylized winds blow down on snow capped volcanic peaks and "McMURDO", a U.S. scientific base and one of the most populous spots on the continent.

If you wish to purchase these, send payment to Fred Zinkann, 82 East Circle Dr., Montgomery, IL 60538.

FREE ADMISSION

BUY-SELL-TRADE

6th ANNUAL

**ATCO**

National Token & Medal Show

**OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

**September 3 & 4, 1988**

TOKENS-MEDALS-MORE



**Location:**  
Ramada Inn Airport  
Abbott Drive & Locust  
Omaha, NE 68110

**Rooms:**  
1(800)272 6232  
(\$43 / 1-4 per room)

**Show Information:**  
George Hosek  
7411 Idle Dale Ln  
Omaha, NE 68112  
(402) 465-1905

TOKENS-MEDALS-MORE

BUY-SELL-TRADE

**Hours:**  
**SAT. 10-7**  
**SUN. 9-5**



# FOR THE RECORD



**DAWSON:** Diamond Tooth Gertie's, 50 cents over 25 cents. 2nd series of chips. Looks like a magic marker pen was used to write on the new value. This piece was previously reported without the added value, but looks like it may have been rubbed off!



**DAWSON:** Diamond Tooth Gertie's, \$1 chip. Black, with new border and new dancing girl similar to the red \$5 reported last year.



**DOUGLAS:** Republic Bar, 6 1/4¢ in trade. Brass, 21mm. Have we run this before?? (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



**DYEA, AK:** H & W, 12 1/2 cts. in merchandise. Aluminum, 21mm. (submitted by Alan Weinberg).



**(FAIRBANKS):** Good for Beans & Frank 50¢, Steve Frank (for) State Senate. Black on wood.



**(FAIRBANKS):** K & K Recycling, good for an additional 5¢ per pound of aluminum cans. white on green plastic.



**MAVERICK:** Cook's Inlet, signed L.H. Moise, S.F. Good for ONE. Brass, 24mm. Great name for a bar! Candidates for this would be Anchorage, Hope, Sunrise, Knik or any of the other towns and villages on Cook Inlet! (Submitted by Alan Weinberg).

## FULTON & HIRSHEY-KNIK



The above token was reported in the April, 1985 issue of ATC&PN. The ad below is from "The Knik News", Jan. 9, 1915.

## FULTON & HIRSHEY

### POOL AND BILLIARD HALL

Soft Drinks, Cigars, Tobacco,  
Candy, All Kinds of Fruit

KNIK, ALASKA

The building that housed the Knik Pool Hall of Fulton & Hirshey now houses the Knik Museum.

Submitted by David C. Bennison



A.R.C.I., P.O. BOX 2832, FAIRBANKS, AK 99707 \* SUBSCRIPTION \$10.00/YR.  
VOLUME X, NUMBER 8.

SEPTEMBER, 1988.

## GREENLAND TOKENS

by  
JØRGEN SØMOD

If you tried to make a list of all Greenland coins and tokens, including all varieties, you would not be able to list a hundred items. A few are common, many are scarce, but most are extremely rare, so that it would be impossible to make a complete collection. Many pieces are unique and placed in different museums and collections. A few are known to exist, but the location of even a single specimen is not known.

Greenland has been known since the Viking age, when it was discovered by Eric the Red. Since the Middle ages it has belonged to Denmark, and since 1953 it has been a part of Denmark. The currency in Greenland has always been like that of Denmark. 1 Rigsdaler or Daler (derived from the same word as Dollar) was equal to 6 Mark or 96 Skilling. In 1875 the monetary system was changed to Kroner and Øre. One Daler was equal to 2 Kroner; 12 Skilling was equal to 25 Øre; 1 Skilling was equal to 2 Øre.



The oldest Greenland tokens were issued by the Danish firm Øresund, a mining firm founded in 1859. They broke cryolite at Ivigtut. These tokens have the name of the firm, ØRESUND, and the denominations of 1 RD (Rigsdaler), 48, 16, 4 and 1 (Skilling), all incuse. They are made of zinc and are extremely rare.

The latest Greenland token issue is an amusement token made in 1972 by the Danish token manufacturing firm MEKA, with a mintage of 10,000 for Købmand (Merchant) Henrik Olsvig in Christeanshab/Qasiginnguit (Greenland towns have two names, one Danish and one Inuit). These tokens are used in connection with some one-armed bandits in his shops. The obverse legend is KØBMAND / \* 25 \* / OLSVIG / MEKA (in small letters). The reverse legend SPILLEMAERKE / 25. The token is 23mm in diameter and is made from brass plated iron. Spillemaerke means amusement token.



I have a few of the Henrik Olsvig tokens that I can supply to collectors for US \$4 each, postpaid.

Jørgen Sømod, Chr. Richardts Vej 4, DK-1951 Frederiksberg C, Denmark.



EDITORIAL

This has been another one of those months when I have suffered from a great lack of ambition. All things considered, this issue did not turn out too badly!

We would like to welcome Jørgen Sømod as our "Scandinavian Correspondent". Mr. Sømod promises to enlighten us about the token issue of Greenland. He also sent a short article for next month on a Danish transportation token with an interesting Polar twist!

Brian Denman has submitted a couple of items, one of which is in the next column. We will be running the longer of the two in an upcoming issue.

There has been very little response to our "Fantasy Auction". The closing date is a mystery, so if you haven't participated yet, please do so. We have received a few comments. One reader basically told us that we sent his blood pressure skyrocketing until he realized that the token he wanted was totally non-existent! He should have known better, as the piece he liked was the A.W. Klondike piece. He knows that I collect Yukon tokens, and should have known that I wouldn't be selling it, but would have kept it as a trader!

Finally, I would like to direct your attention to the full page ad on page 50. Kaye Dethridge sent us a sample. This is truly an attractive piece. The illustration does not do it justice.

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Editor - Dick Hanscom  
Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth  
Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick  
Scandinavian Corr.- Jørgen Sømod

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BRIER VS. ZACCARELLI

Unless a token issuer is somewhat notable, it is rare for the researcher to find more than an advertisement or a line in a directory that testifies even to the existence of his subject. It is even rarer that we catch a glimpse of the personality of those merchants and hotelmen.

Such was the case when I came across a court case involving Louis Brier of Dawson-Mr. Brier was brought before Judge Charles Macaulay in June, 1909 on charges of selling cigars on the Lord's Day.

Brier proclaimed his innocence. He told the court that a customer had come in, took the cigars and left a dollar on the counter. "It is against my religion, you know, judge," said Brier, "to let any money go by unnoticed, so I let that dollar lie on the counter, but I kept my eye on it. It was there the next day, so I just took possession of it!"

An unconvinced Macaulay concluded, "I will impose a fine that you will not overlook so easily as a dollar..." Brier was fined \$40 and costs or 30 days. Brier paid the fine.

The following week Brier was back before the judge. This time he had laid a complaint against another tobacconist, John Zaccarelli.

"While I was in Zaccarelli's place," Brier testified, "Coski (sic) bought two cigars and paid a quarter for them. They were Domestic General Arthurs. I saw them. I went there to find out if Zaccarelli had informed on me. He acknowledges that he did." Brier whined, "I did not go there purposely to catch Zaccarelli but because he informed on me." Zaccarelli testified he was only selling ice cream and that he was innocent of the charge. The judge concluded since the cigar purchaser was not there it was only Brier's word against Zaccarelli, so he dismissed the case.

-Brian J. Denman  
- - - - -

ARTICLES, SPACE FILLERS AND ITEMS FOR THE RECORD ARE ALWAYS NEEDED. PLEASE CONSIDER SENDING THESE IN. FOR YOUR EDITOR, THIS NEWSLETTER IS BETTER THAN "TRIVIAL PURSUIT".



# SKAGWAY, ALASKA



PACK TRAIN

The photos on this page are from "The Story of the Tour on the Skagway, Alaska Street Car" by Martin Itjen. This is a neat card cover book of 95 pages loaded with photos.



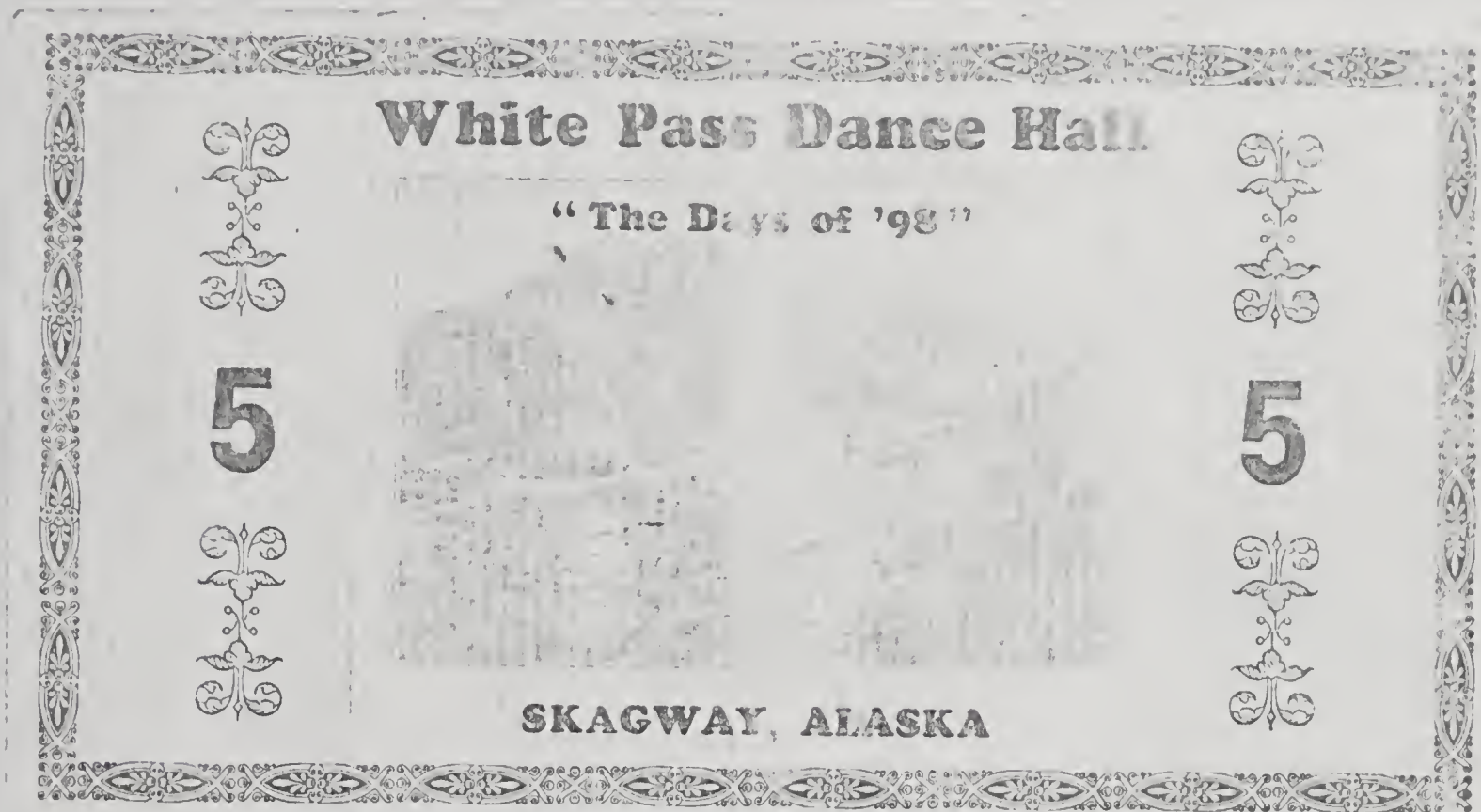
PERRY HERN, SKAGWAY DRUG CO.



BOARD OF TRADE







This issue seems to be a chance to clean our files, and we have an excess of items on Skagway. We collect these over the months, and they just don't seem to fit in with what is being run at the time.

Above is a specimen of White Pass Dance Hall money from Skagway's "Days of '98". We came upon a postcard with a gambling scene, attributed to the Days of '98. An interesting card. With a magnifying glass and the original, you can see that they are

playing with \$1 Silver Certificates!

**WANTED** - For historical research & our book, "Licenses and Badges of B.C." We need dog licences, chauffeurs, taxi, & old drivers licences, auto and vehicle, bicycle, peddlers, canvassers, inspectors, fishing, hunting, & most all other B.C. licences & badges, or any related items for above. We will buy or trade. Many items available for trade: War medals and badges, trade dollars, medallions, Canadian, U.S.A. and world coins & stamps, pocket watches & many misc. items of collectible interests. Please write to

John Hnatiuk, P.O. Box 4944 Phone  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6B 4A6 596-6303



# Kaye Dethridge

Box 438  
Sitka, Alaska 99835  
(907) 747-8615



In commemoration of the centennial of the Sheldon Jackson Museum, the Friends of the Sheldon Jackson Museum have commissioned a beautiful 1 oz. silver medallion.

On one side is a picture of the museum and on the other is a Tlingit design taken from the end of a bentwood box from the museum collection. The box belonged to Chief Thom, a Tlingit leader in Sitka, and was collected by Sheldon Jackson in 1889.

The medallion contains one ounce of pure silver and has a lovely antiqued finish.

Price: \$29.50, postpaid

---

Send orders to:

Kaye Dethridge  
Box 438  
Sitka, Alaska 99835

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(How many) \_\_\_\_\_ medals at \$29.50 for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_





A.P.C.I., P.O. BOX 2632, FAIRBANKS, AK 99707 (907) 452-6461 \* SUBSCRIPTION \$10.00/YR.  
VOLUME X, NUMBER 9.

OCTOBER, 1988.



### HOW THE FLORADORA BECAME THE ROYAL ALEXANDRA

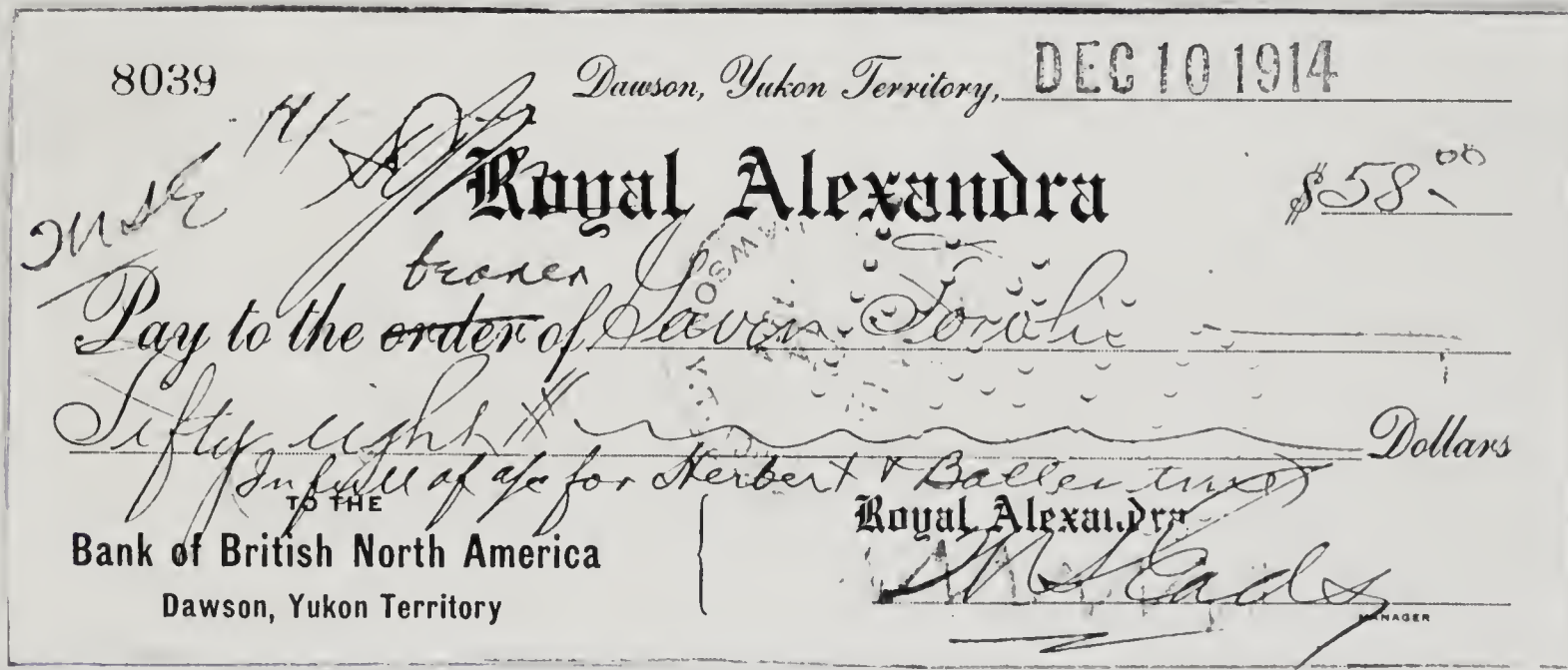
by  
Brian J. Denman



"A TEN DOLLAR GOLD PIECE" announced the advertisement in the Dawson Daily News, would be awarded as a prize in a contest to rename the Floradora.

Murray Eads, the owner of the hotel, thought tourists and strangers might find the name Floradora "misleading." So, he placed an ad in the News of July 12, 1909 announcing the competition. One can now only surmise why Mr. Eads found the name Floradora inappropriate. Perhaps he wanted to distance the hotel from its gold rush reputation as a dance hall and saloon.

On July 15, 1909 the name HOTEL ROYAL was chosen by a panel of judges as the winning entry. However, the next day Eads announced that because so many Yukoners had chosen ALEXANDRA (the queen) as their entry, he would combine the names and ROYAL ALEXANDRA became the name of the hotel.



Illustrated above is a cheque from the Royal Alexandra signed by Eads (illustration reduced).

The Royal Alexandra was to last for many years. The pictured to the left is from the 1930's.

Murray Eads and his wife met their end aboard the steamer Prince Sophia when she sank off the coast of Alaska, October 25, 1918 and brought all 343 passengers and crew to a watery grave.



EDITORIAL

There are a few interesting items in this month's issue. Our thanks to Brian Denman for his article on the Royal Alexandra. If you are interested in a bit more information about the wreck of the Princess Sophia, please see the May, 1982 issue of ATC&PN. John Zaccarelli also perished on this wreck and there is a bit more information at the end of that article.

Jørgen Sømød also submitted a neat article relating to Vitus Bering. Mr. Sømød has sent in a couple of other interesting items that will be appearing over the coming months.

The tenth and final issue for this year will probably be mailed out in mid to late November. We can always use more article for the newsletter. If you have any information you are willing to share, please contact us.

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Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth  
Canadian Correspondent - Jerry Remick  
Scandinavian Corr.- Jørgen Sømød

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VITUS BERING



Between Alaska and Siberia, we find the Bering Sea, the Bering Strait and Bering Island. They are named after Vitus Bering, a Dane born in 1681 in the city of Horsens in Jutland, a part of Denmark. In 1725, he came into the service of the Czar. As an explorer, he had to find out if Siberia was connected to America. His last expedition ended with his death and funeral in 1741 on the island the bears his name.

In honor of their famous son, Horsens Bybusser (city bus company) about 1970 issued transportation tokens with his name: VITUS BERING, and the years 1681-1741. The tokens were struck by the token making firm Sporrøng in Norrtälje, Sweden, a firm founded in 1666. The tokens were made in two different editions: brass for ordinary fare and German silver for pensioners. The latter were in use for only a short time.

Jørgen Sømød

JOHN HAJDUKOVICH



From the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, Aug. 4, 1938:

Pioneer prospector and trader John Hajdukovich, has been appointed fourth division representative on the Alaska Game Commission by Henry Wallace, secretary of agriculture.

Mr. Hajdukovich has had trading post at Nabesna, Tetlin and Tanacross. He is a veteran prospector having had interests in the Goodpaster for many years. He also helped on the survey of the proposed international highway route.



## ALASKA "U.S. BICENTENNIAL MEDAL



The following is from the description given to this medal by the Franklin Mint in the literature accompanying the medal.

**"OBVERSE** The first-prize-winning obverse design for Alaska's Bicentennial medal is divided into three segments to symbolize that our forty-ninth state spans three time zones and cultures.

"The totem pole represents the statewide native culture. Alaskan natives consist of three groups: the Eskimo inhabits the far north and the northwest coast, the Indians live in the interior of the state and the Aleuts populate the Aleutian Island chain. Members of all three groups participate in every facet of Alaskan life.

"The Russian church symbolizes Russian exploration, which began in 1741 when Vitus Bering reached Alaska. The first Russian settlement was founded on Kodiak Island in 1784. The Russian Orthodox religion has been an important influence since 1794 when it was first established in Alaska. Nearly every town and village had its church or chapel, but these buildings are fast disappearing from the Alaskan landscape. The famous Cathedral of St. Michael in Sitka was destroyed by fire in 1966. The people of Sitka could save only a few historic relics.

"The prospector in the upper portion of the design represents Alaska's development as a territory and finally as a state. In the 1890's the discovery of gold at Juneau and other Alaskan areas brought thousands of prospectors to the region. A few made fortunes; others left penniless. Many stayed to build homes and towns, paving the way

for future progress.

"On March 30, 1867, Secretary of State William Seward and President Andrew Johnson negotiated a very unpopular transaction to purchase the territory from Russia for \$7,200,000. At the time, people referred to the area which now encompasses our largest state as "Seward's Folly."

**"REVERSE** The State Seal of Alaska, appearing on the reverse was adopted unofficially in 1913 and approved on April 18, 1960, the year after Alaska became a state. It features the magnificent scenery that is such a distinguishing feature of our northernmost state. The sun's rays emanating from behind majestic mountains, shine on a scene depicting the state's major industries: fishing, mining, agriculture and shipping. Alaska is the nation's last great wilderness area and representations of the state's wildlife - a seal and a fish - are shown around the border of the design.

**"ABOUT THE ARTIST...**Armond M. Kirschbaum is a charter member of the Alaska Artist Guild. Born and educated in San Francisco, he has lived in Alaska for twenty-four years. He studied at the California School of Art, now the San Francisco Art Institute, and the Academy of Advertising Art. His many one-man shows have been seen in San Francisco and Anchorage. His work was also represented in the "Artists of Alaska" exhibition which traveled throughout the East Coast. Kirschbaum has won numerous national awards and honors for his designs and illustrations. Kirschbaum owns and manages the Color Center - a combination art school and outlet for art materials. He and his wife Caye make their home in Anchorage. They have four children."

## CRUDY ALUMINUM TOKENS

George Hosek has used Lime-a-way to clean crudy aluminum tokens. This will leave a white film on the token, which can be cleaned with a suede brush. This then leaves the token shiny and cleaned looking. We suggest that this only be used on real bad specimens that are nearly unreadable. Our decision is if the token is so bad that it can't be hurt, there is nothing to lose. If you decide to use Lime-a-way, please use care and caution.



DIAMOND TOOTH GERTIES CHECKLIST

First Series; soft plastic

- [ ] 25c, black on white
- [ ] 50c, black on yellow
- [ ] \$1, gold on black
- [ ] \$5, white on blue
- [ ] \$1, on red

Second Series; pentagon and dash border, all gold lettering

- [ ] 25c, white
- [ ] 50c/25c, white
- [ ] 50c, red
- [ ] \$1, blue
- [ ] \$5, yellow

Third Series; new colors

- [ ] 50c, brown
- [ ] \$1, purple
- [ ] \$5, orange

Fourth Series; cards and dice border

- [ ] \$25, green (issued with the third series)
- [ ] 50c, brown
- [ ] \$1, lavender
- [ ] \$5, orange
- [ ] \$1, black

Fifth Series; same as the 4th, but with gold flecks

- [ ]\* \$1, black
- [ ] \$5, orange (not confirmed)
- [ ]\* \$25, green

50c is not believe to have been issued with gold flecks

Sixth Series; clubs, hearts, spades, diamonds border

- [ ] \$5, red
- [ ]\* \$1, black

Seventh Series; new dancing girl facing right

- [ ]\* \$1, black
- [ ]\* \$100, black on yellow with brass plug

Beginner's Currency

- [ ]\* Gertie Dollar, computer generated printing



2nd & 3rd Series Border



4th & 5th Series Border

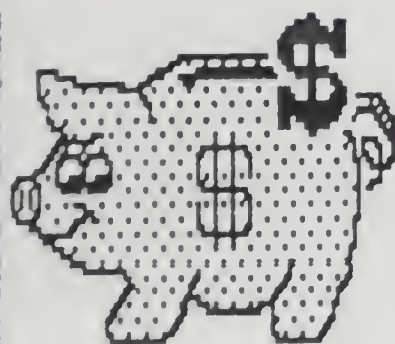


6th & 7th Series Border



\$100 chip

Items marked with \* are previously unreported.



**\$ GERTIE DOLLAR \$**

WHEN MATCHED WITH YOUR MONEY

GOOD FOR \$1  
AT BLACKJACK TABLES  
( No Cash Value )



# FOR THE RECORD



(ANCHORAGE): Magic Wand Car Wash, Car Wash token. Brass, 22mm (submitted by Ken Rieck)



(ANCHORAGE): Tiki Lounge, Good for \$2 drink Black on wood (submitted by Ken Rieck).



(ANCHORAGE): Norgetown Laundry & Cleaners, 25¢. Black on wood (submitted by Ken Rieck)



CENTRAL, AK: Central Motor Inn, good for one drink. Black on wood.



CENTRAL, AK: Crabb's Corner, good for one beer. Black on wood.

DAWSON, YT: Diamond Tooth Gertie's. New chips, see check list on page the preceding page.



(CIRCLE HOT SPRINGS): Arctic Circle Hot Springs, good for one drink. Black on wood.



WHITEHORSE, YT: R.C.L. #254. Probably a drink token. Three layer fiber (brown/white/brown) with white printing, 35mm.



MAVERICK: Alaska Club Tavern, 25¢ in trade. Brass, 25mm. (submitted by Ron Benice).



MAVERICK: S.H., 25¢. Is this Y235b in "Yukon Tokens" by Hill and Simpson? 22mm, brass (submitted by Lew Egnew).



MAVERICK: Klondike Keno, 10¢ in trade. Brass, 20mm (submitted by Lew Egnew).



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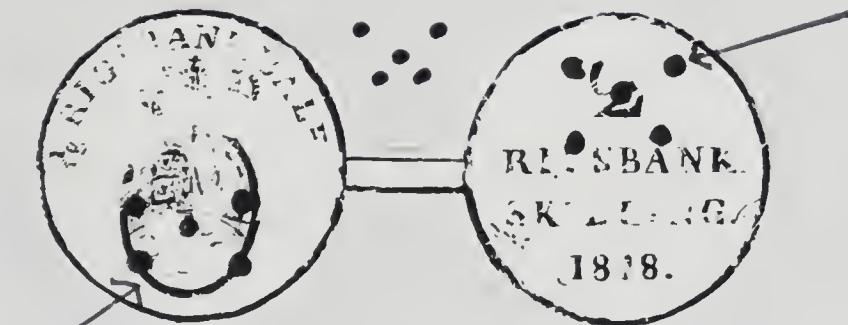
## DANISH COPPER COINS USED AS TOKENS AT IVIGTUT

by  
 Jørgen Sæmod

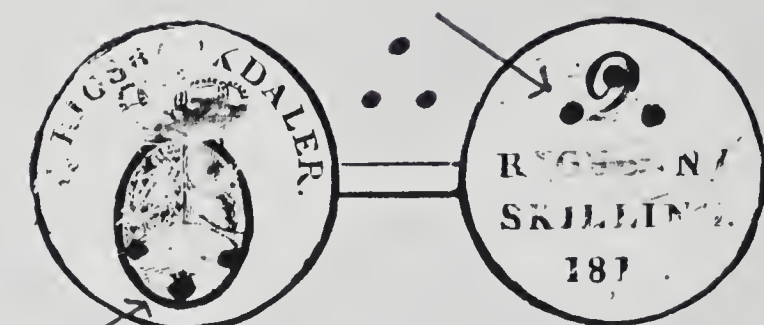
In 1987, a man about 50 years of age, went to a coin dealer in Copenhagen, and asked if he was interested in buying some Greenland coins. He said that his grandfather had worked at Ivigtut, Greenland about 1900. He had brought these home with him from Greenland, and it is by these means that the family came into possession.

Of course the dealer said, "Yes," and a short time later the man came back with some very common Danish copper coins in the worst possible condition, and counterstamped with some single marks. The dealer bought them for nearly nothing. They were then shown to a couple of collectors. None of the collectors wanted to buy them because they were not mentioned in the catalogues.

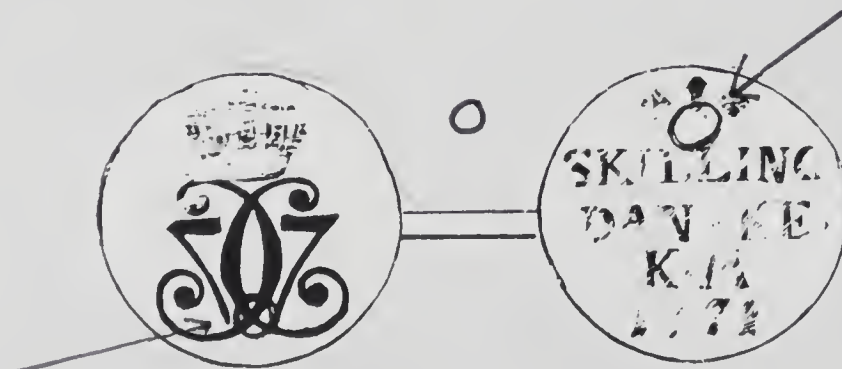
Then I saw the coins, and I have seen really many coins in my life. I don't think any other Dane alive has seen as many coins as I, and I could see that the wear was genuine and the color was genuine. And I don't think that I have ever seen these coins in such poor quality. There is no doubt, they had circulated 25 years longer than the similar ordinary coins. These coins were called in in 1875, and an additional 25 years of wear would place them in use until about 1900.



2 Rigsbankskillings 1818  
 counterstamped on both sides



2 Rigsbankskillings 1818  
 counterstamped on both sides



1 Skilling 1771  
 counterstamped on both sides

Continued on Page 58



## EDITORIAL

This completes our 10th year. Accompanying this this issue is a 10 year index. I can't believe that I said I would be compiling this and giving it away free to subscribers. This is at least 3 days of solid work. Hope you folks appreciate it! I do know that it will make my life easier just in trying to keep from repeating items.

Is any one out there interested in a bound volume of the 10 years of this newsletter? If so, please advise. There is no obligation on your part at this time. Just want to see if there is enough interest.

Token collectors have long been the butt of jokes of "serious" numismatists. How long you ask? Just see page 59, this issue. Hopefully, our illustrations repudiate some of the vile things the author is saying about this hobby!

Finally, subscriptions are now due. Check the numbers on the first line of your address label. If it is #10/88, your subscription expires with this issue. If you have contributed, and feel your subscription should not expire yet, please write. We fail to keep track at times and would rather have your contribution of information than your money!

Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist, published 10 times per year, is a publication of Alaska Rare Coin Investments. All articles remain the property of the authors and may not be reprinted without their consent.

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Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth  
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Scandinavian Corr. - Jørgen Sæmod

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Jewelry  
Alaskana

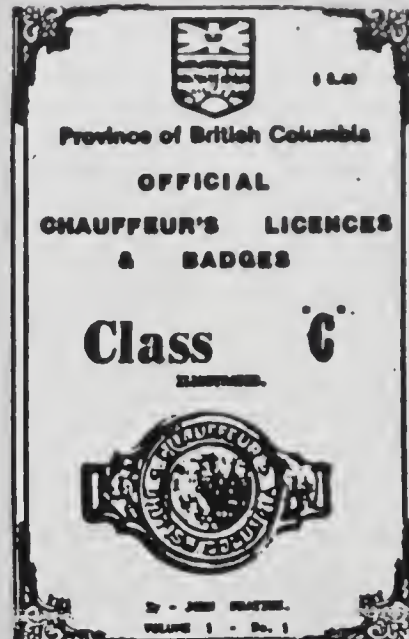
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Jerry Cleworth/Dick Hanscom  
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Phone: 452-6461

551 Second Ave.  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

## B.C. CHAUFFEUR'S LICENCES & BADGES



John Hnatiuk has announced the availability of his booklet "Province of British Columbia Official Chauffeur's Licences & Badges." The booklet is 26 pages, on 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 paper. It includes information, photos, mintage figures where known, shapes and sizes, color combinations and metal content. It is illustrated up to the last year, 1971.

The booklet is limited to 500 copies and is priced at \$8, plus \$1 for postage and handling. Prices are in Canadian funds.

These can be ordered from the address in John's ad below!

## TEN YEAR INDEX

This issue is accompanied by a 10 year index to ATC&PN. It is not complete, but it is as complete as I could make it. If you contributed an article, you should be in the index. If you are not, I must apologize. I know that there are some omissions, but none intentional. You get sort of burned out looking through the issues one by one, over and over again.

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## DANISH COPPER COINS, cont.

Ivigut is known for the mining of cryolite. There is no connection to other parts of Greenland. Around 1900, there were about 100 workers and also officials, the doctor and the controller for the Danish government. All workers were Danes - no Eskimos.

Why and for what use the coins had will be a question forever. They could be worker's tallies or game counters or something else. I don't know, but the story seems true. Why else should a non-collector bring such coins to a dealer, sell them for nearly nothing, and tell such a story when the age of the counterstamps and the time for extra wear are undebatable? The coins were then purchased for a very favorable price for The Lawyer Ole Andersen Collection of World Tokens, founded in 1879.

## CANTEEN BAR RESTRIKES

As noted in Alaska Tokens by Ron Benice, there are "restrikes" of the Canteen Bar token from Anchorage. As any knowledgeable collector would recognize, these are not true restrikes as they are struck from new dies bearing easily discernible differences from the originals.

The TAMS Journal of April, 1974 has a short article on these tokens. An invoice from Meyer & Wenthe dated 12/30/70 indicate that 500 were struck in copper and 10 in silver to the order of Clark Cooney. With the obvious differences in the dies, there was no apparent intent to deceive the collector

Ron Benice forwarded a rubbing of an interesting, unlisted "restrike" of this piece recently. It appears to be from original dies, but with "Native Copper" obliterated from the obverse and the ¢ obliterated from the reverse. As Ron states, "One can only wonder what else has been done with these dies over the years."

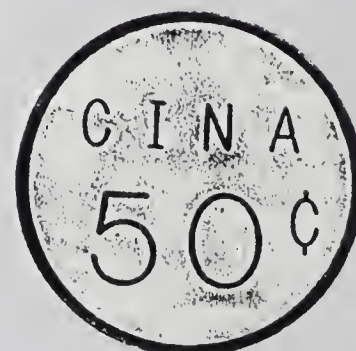


## COOK INLET NATIVE ASSOCIATION BINGO TOKENS

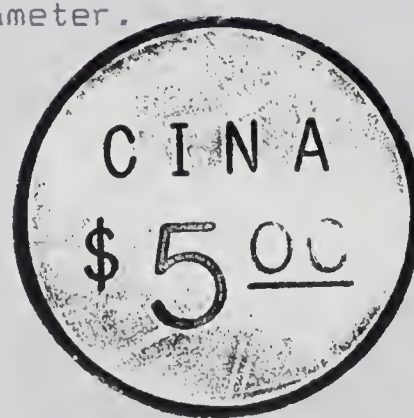


Bingo is a popular and legal form of gambling in the state of Alaska. We are not fully familiar with the regulations, but believe bingo parlors can be run by or for non-profit organizations. Over the years, scandals have erupted from time to time concerning this or that bingo operator.

The Cook Inlet Native Association of Anchorage has run bingo games for a number of years. We have seen these tokens before, but have not had the opportunity to illustrate them in ATC. The piece illustrated above was apparently not in use very long because it was the same size as a 50¢ token, illustrated below. It was made of a nickel alloy, and was 34mm in diameter.



The 50¢ token above was struck in brass, but these were returned to the mint because they were supposed to be nickel alloy. Identical tokens in nickel alloy were then obtained. These are 34mm in diameter.



The last piece is a 40mm brass, \$5 token.

Our thanks to Ken Rieck of Anchorage for providing the tokens and information. Ken allowed us to copy many items you will be seeing in upcoming issues.



## TRADESMEN'S TOKENS

The following is from the Preface to Tradesmen's Tokens, Current in London and its vicinity between the years 1648 and 1672, by John Yonge Akerman, published 1849.

"Notwithstanding the dictum of Pinkerton, many persons are yet found who collect Tradesmen's Tokens; and even in Germany, where not a tittle of Numismatic evidence is slighted or despised, these media of "charitie and change" are not considered unworthy the attention those who can appreciate a better and a more legitimate coinage.

"When we committed to the hands of our printer, some time since, a list of Tokens issued by Wiltshire Tradesmen in the 17th century, we had some misgivings as to its reception by our French friends. Our uneasiness on this head has however diminished; and a paper in the *Revue Numismatique* on the Brummagem satirical medalets, struck in this country, in ridicule of Tom Paine and the Jacobins of his day, assures us that even such trifles as these are occasionally not unworthy the notice of the learned and practised numismatist.

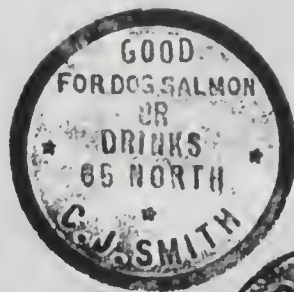
"It must be confessed that, as mere works of art, they have nothing to interest us;



but it is submitted that, as containing a list of names only, they may not be without their use, and may comprise information of some value to the antiquary and the genealogist. Whether they are now "collected by some antiquaries with an avidity truly puerile," as the aforesaid authority assures us they were in his days, it is not our business to inquire; but we protest against his sweeping assertion, that "not one purpose of

taste,

information



or curiosity

can be drawn from them." "It need hardly be added," he continues, "that they are recommended to the supreme scorn of the reader, who may justly regard studying or collecting of them, along with the admiration of Counters, as beneath any man of taste."

Now, although we yield to none in admiration of the classic beauty of the coins of Greece and Rome, we do not utterly reject the humble record of Tradesmen's Tokens. Though they bear not "copies of several statues



that have had the politest nations of the world fall down before them;" though they record no victories,



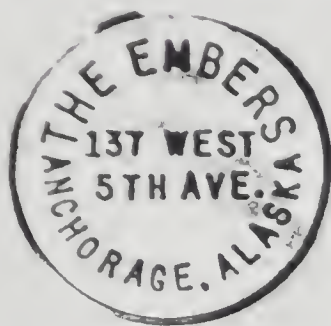
bear no pompous and high sounding inscriptions,



nor the effigies of dynasties which have gone down the stream of time, they yet cannot be without interest to many."



# FOR THE RECORD



ANCHORAGE: The Embers, Good for one Drink. 32mm, aluminum (submitted by Ken Rieck).



ANCHORAGE: Gwennie's Old Alaska Restaurant, Good for one Drink. Black on wood (submitted by Ken Rieck).



ANCHORAGE: Gwennie's Old Alaska Restaurant, Good for 1 cup of Yuban. Black on wood (submitted by Ken Rieck).



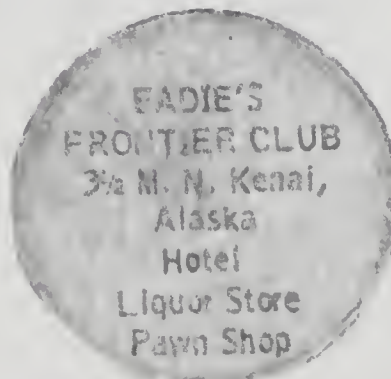
ANCHORAGE: Muldoon Flea Market wooden nickel, issued May, 1987. Black on wood (submitted by Ken Rieck).



ANCHORAGE: Providence Hospital, Courtesy Parking. Brass, 25mm (submitted by Ken Rieck).



JUNEAU: J's Quality Auto Supply, 10% discount coin. 32mm aluminum (submitted by Ken Rieck).



KENAI: Eadie's Frontier Club, Eadie's Frontier Dollar. Red on wood (submitted by Ken Rieck).



KETCHIKAN: Moose Lodge No. 224, \$1 in trade. 32mm aluminum (submitted by Ken Rieck).



NOME: Polaris Bar, Good for one Drink. White on blue plastic, 41mm (submitted by Ken Rieck).



WILLOW: Sheep Creek Lodge, Good for one Drink. Black on wood.



# ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR



## POLAR NUMISMATIST

ALASKA RARE COIN INVESTMENTS, P.O. BOX 2832, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99707

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# ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR & POLAR NUMISMATIST

ALASKA RARE COIN INVESTMENTS, P.O. BOX 2832, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99707

## TEN YEAR INDEX 1979 TO 1988

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